ゲーム業界を震撼させた"ALTERNATIVE"が
新鋭・蒔島梓の手により、ついに単行本化!!

死戦、始マル!!

マブラヴ オルタネイティヴ 01

人気ゲーム『マブラヴ オルタネイティヴ』公式コミック第1巻!!

マブラヴ オルタネイティヴ 01

原作：アージュ
作画：蒔島 梓

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電撃コミックス

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学戦ブリザ

ALTERNATIVE

原作：アージュ
作画：蒔島 梓

01

アージュ ノベルスメイト

IT IS

VERY SMALL

VERY BIG

VERY IMPORTANT

A CONTINUING FAIRY-TALE OF LOVE AND VALOUR

マブラヴ オルタネイティヴ 01

原作：アージュ
作画：蒔島 梓

C203-1

電撃コミックス

マブラヴ オルタネイティヴ

01

原作：アージュ
作画：時島梓

C203-1

電撃コミックス

This is a Tonigobe tankoubon translation project.
It is translated and edited by one (insane) fan for English speaking fans.
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Muv-Luv Alternative

Original Work:
âge

Manga:
Azusa Makijima

ALTERNATIVE

ALTERNATIVE

‹ 01 ›

CONTENTS

episode.1 003

episode.2 035

episode.3 059

episode.4 083

episode.5 115

episode.6 139

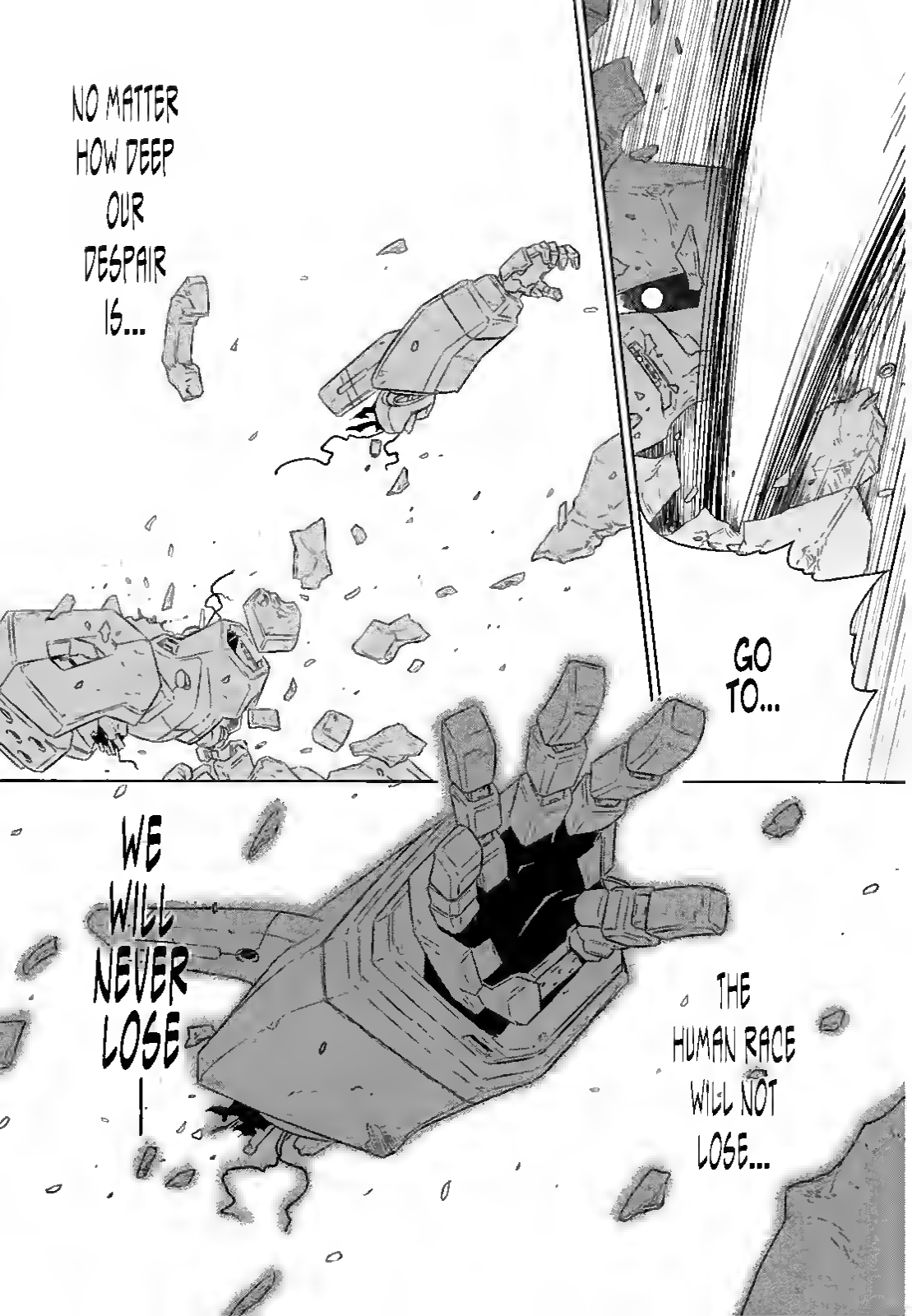
episode.7 155

extra.one 177

episode:01
ON THAT DAY —
SOME 100,000 HUMAN BEINGS FLED THE EARTH, ABANDONING IT
LEAVING BEHIND ABOUT A BILLION PEOPLE
WHO STILL CONTINUED THE FIGHT ON THE GROUND!

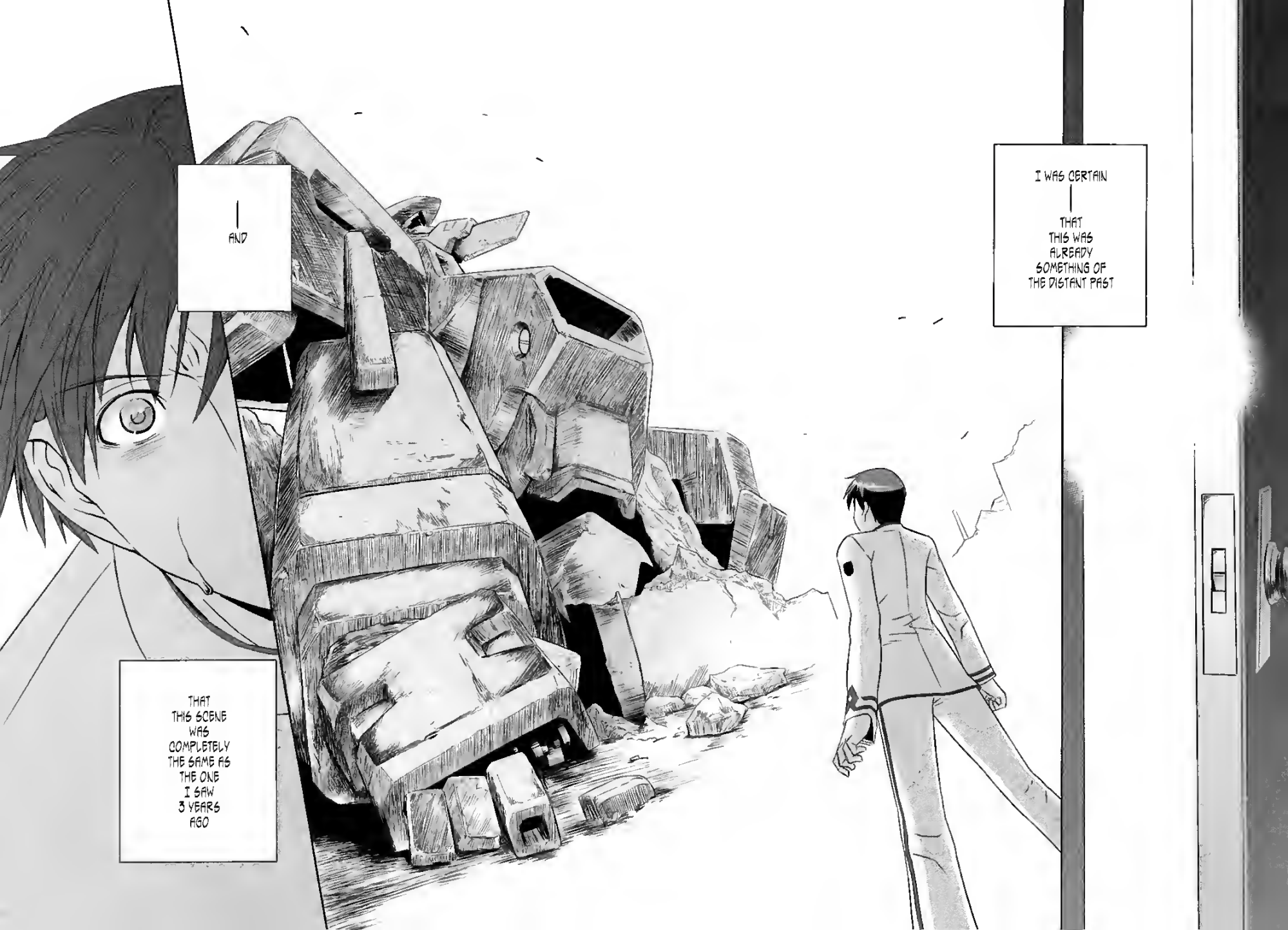
BOOM
BOOM
BOOM

EVEN IF THE ENEMY IS VERY POWERFUL
UP TO FORTRESS LEVELS ...!?
UNIT 04, WHAT HAPPENED ! RESPOND, UNIT 04 !!
GASH
...GGGAAH
UAAAAAAAH
GO AWAY, YOU SONOFABITCH (GASP)
LEAVE OUR SOLAR SYSTEM !

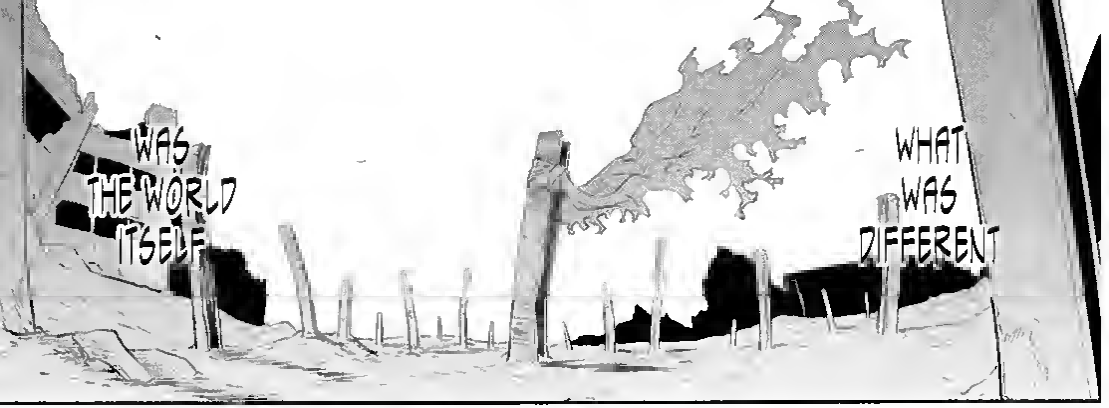

NO MATTER HOW DEEP OUR DESPAIR IS...
GO TO...
WE WILL NEVER LOSE!
THE HUMAN RACE WILL NOT LOSE...

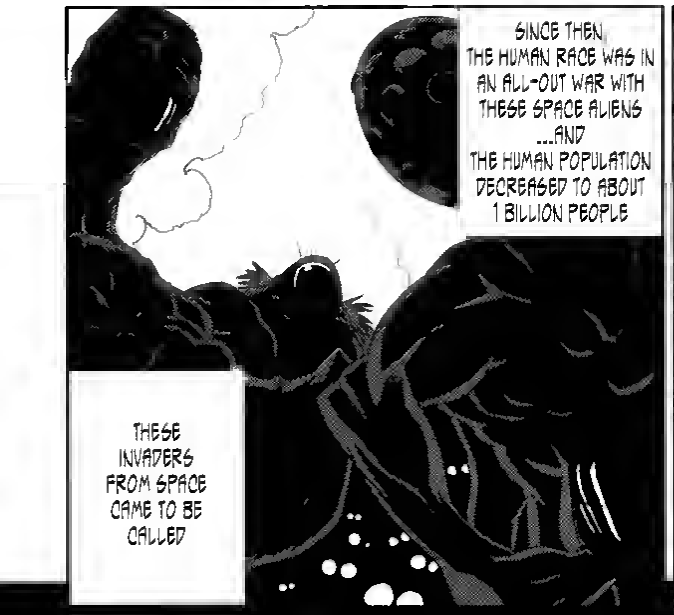
...AH ...?
MY... ... ROOM ?
IT WAS A DREAM ... WAS IT...
... ...
HA... THEN, IT WAS A DREAM, WASN'T IT
AS IF THE EARTH IS ABOUT TO BE DESTROYED BY ALIENS
8 O'CLOCK IS IT... THAT'S RIGHT
IF I DON'T QUICKLY CHANGE MY CLOTHES AND GO TO TRAINING...
... ...

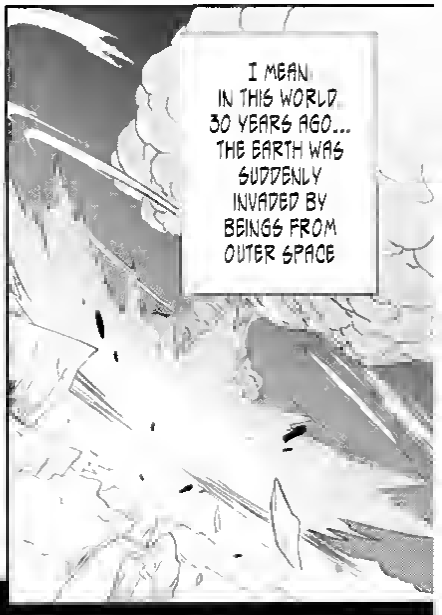
I MEANT... SCHOOL
SCHOOL...
...WHAT WAS THAT
TRAINING...
EATING TSUKUYOMI-SAN'S MEALS... GOING TO SCHOOL WITH MBIYA... THAT SHOULD BE MY EVERYDAY LIFE
THAT'S RIGHT... ORDINARILY, THAT SUMIKA WILL BE COMING TO WAKE ME UP SOON
I KNOW... MY EVERYDAY LIFE IS SOMEWHERE BEYOND MY REACH
DO KUN
DO KUN
DO KUN
HOWEVER, WHAT IS IT
THIS UNCOMFORTABLE FEELING THAT
SFX: DOKUN (ドクン) = STRONG HEARTBEATS


AND
THAT
THIS SCENE
WAS
COMPLETELY
THE SAME AS
THE ONE
I SAW
3 YEARS
AGO
I WAS CERTAIN
THAT
THIS WAS
ALREADY
SOMETHING OF
THE DISTANT PAST

AGAIN, IS IT ...! IT'S THIS DAY AGAIN, IS IT !?
BUT... DOES THIS MEAN THAT I CAME BACK TO THE PAST !?
THUMP!
TIME IS FILLED WITH INFINITE DIVERSITY — OR SO I WAS TOLD
ONE DAY, I WAS SUDDENLY, UNEXPECTEDLY BROUGHT INTO ONE OF THESE "WORLDS OF DIFFERENT POSSIBILITIES"
THERE EXISTS A WORLD THAT ENCOMPASSES ONE OUT OF INFINITE POSSIBILITIES... SOMETHING CALLED A PARALLEL WORLD, SO TO SPEAK
IN THIS WORLD, THERE WERE PEOPLE WHO I KNEW... EXISTING IN SITUATIONS AND ROLES THAT WERE DIFFERENT




SINCE THEN, THE HUMAN RACE WAS IN AN ALL-OUT WAR WITH THESE SPACE ALIENS ...AND THE HUMAN POPULATION DECREASED TO ABOUT 1 BILLION PEOPLE
THESE INVADERS FROM SPACE CAME TO BE CALLED



"BEINGS OF EXTRA-TERRESTRIAL ORIGIN WHO ARE ADVERSARIES TO THE HUMAN RACE" — NICKNAME: BETA

BUT EVEN SO, I CAME AROUND DESPERATELY TRYING TO SOMEHOW SAVE THIS WORLD IN MY OWN WAY AS A CADET
ONE CERTAIN DAY, ABRUPTLY THROWN INTO THIS MIXED-UP, CRAZY WORLD WAS I

PLEASE WAIT, BASE COMMANDER !!
THAT SPEECH JUST NOW... WHAT ON EARTH WAS THAT ABOUT !!
THEN CAME THAT DAY...
THIS CAN'T BE ...!
WHAT ON EARTH IS IT
THIS ALTERNATIVE 4 ...
...THAT IS ALL
YOU CADETS WILL BE RE-ASSIGNED TO UNITED NATIONS BASES IN MANY DIFFERENT PARTS AROUND THE WORLD
THIS YOKOHAMA BASE IS BEING REQUISITIONED IN ACCORDANCE TO ALTERNATIVE 5, THE NEXT PLAN
THE FOURTH ALTERNATIVE PLAN THAT WE WERE PROMOTING... OR ALTERNATIVE 4, HAS BEEN SHIFTED TO THE NEXT STAGE
IT'S JUST AS I SAID
....
ARE YOU SAYING IT WOULD BE DIFFERENT IF WE BECAME REGULAR SOLDIERS SOONER !?
IF THAT'S THE CASE !!
...YOU ARE ALL STILL CADETS
NOW IS NOT YET THE TIME FOR YOU TO KNOW THAT
AND WHAT SORT OF THING IS THIS ALTERNATIVE 5 !!

IN THE END... WITHOUT BEING TOLD WHAT ALTERNATIVE 4 WAS
...SUCH IS
ALTERNATIVE 5... THE EARTH ESCAPE PLAN, WAS PUT INTO MOTION... AND THE HUMAN RACE WAS DIVIDED BY THOSE WHO REMAINED ON THE GROUND AND THOSE WHO BOARDED THE IMMIGRANT SHIP
THE ARMED FORCES
THE DAY I SAW THE LAST DESTROYER LAUNCHED... WAS A DAY I WILL NEVER FORGET

HOWEVER... MY MEMORY AFTER THAT... IS NOT CLEAR
CRUMBLE
OTHERWISE... WHAT I'VE SEEN SO FAR IS SOME PREMONITORY DREAM, IS IT...
ANYWAY, I CAN SAY ONE THING
EVERYTHING ABOUT THE APPEARANCE OF THE NEIGHBORHOOD ON THAT DAY IS JUST AS I RECALL
IT IS SOMETHING THAT I CAME BACK ON THAT DAY WHEN I WAS BROUGHT INTO THIS WORLD... AFTER ALL...
THAT THIS IS UNMISTAKABLY A REALITY ...!
QUENCH
IF I DON'T CONFIRM... WHAT HAS BECOME OF THE YOKOHAMA BASE NOW...!

RUSTLE!
RUSTLE

THE SPIRITS OF SOLDIERS, WHO PERISHED DURING THE OPERATION TO RECAPTURE HONSHU, ARE SLEEPING
UNDERNEATH THIS CHERRY TREE
WAS IT YOU WHO CALLED ME BACK ?
SO ARE YOU TELLING ME ... DON'T LET THE HUMAN RACE CAST ASIDE THE EARTH ?

NOW, EVEN AT THIS MOMENT... FAR AWAY, HIGH IN THE SKY, AT THE LAGRANGIAN POINT
THE IMMIGRANT VESSEL THAT IS TO BE USED TO ESCAPE THE EARTH IS SURE TO BE CONSTRUCTED
ALTERNATIVE 5 IS
SURELY BEGINNING TO MOVE ...
IF I WAS TOLD THAT ALL OF HUMANITY COULD FLEE INTO THE COSMOS, THIS WOULD STILL BE ANOTHER STORY
THIS WOULD STILL
HOWEVER
THE NUMBER OF PEOPLE WHO WERE ABLE TO BOARD THE IMMIGRANT SHIP WAS MERELY...
— JUST MERELY A HUNDRED THOUSAND PEOPLE ...

IF IT PROCEEDS AS IS, MANKIND... WOULD BE FOREVER SEPARATED BETWEEN THE EARTH AND THE COSMOS, AND WHAT'S MORE
THOSE GUYS WHO REMAINED ON THE GROUND WOULD BE RECRUITED FOR AN HONORABLE BUT VIRTUALLY SUICIDAL COUNTER-OFFENSIVE OPERATION...
...THAT ALONE IS
THAT ALONE IS ABSOLUTELY UNFORGIVABLE
NEVER AGAIN ! I DON'T EVER WANT TO SEE MANKIND ON THE BRINK OF BEING DESTROYED ...!
GRIT!

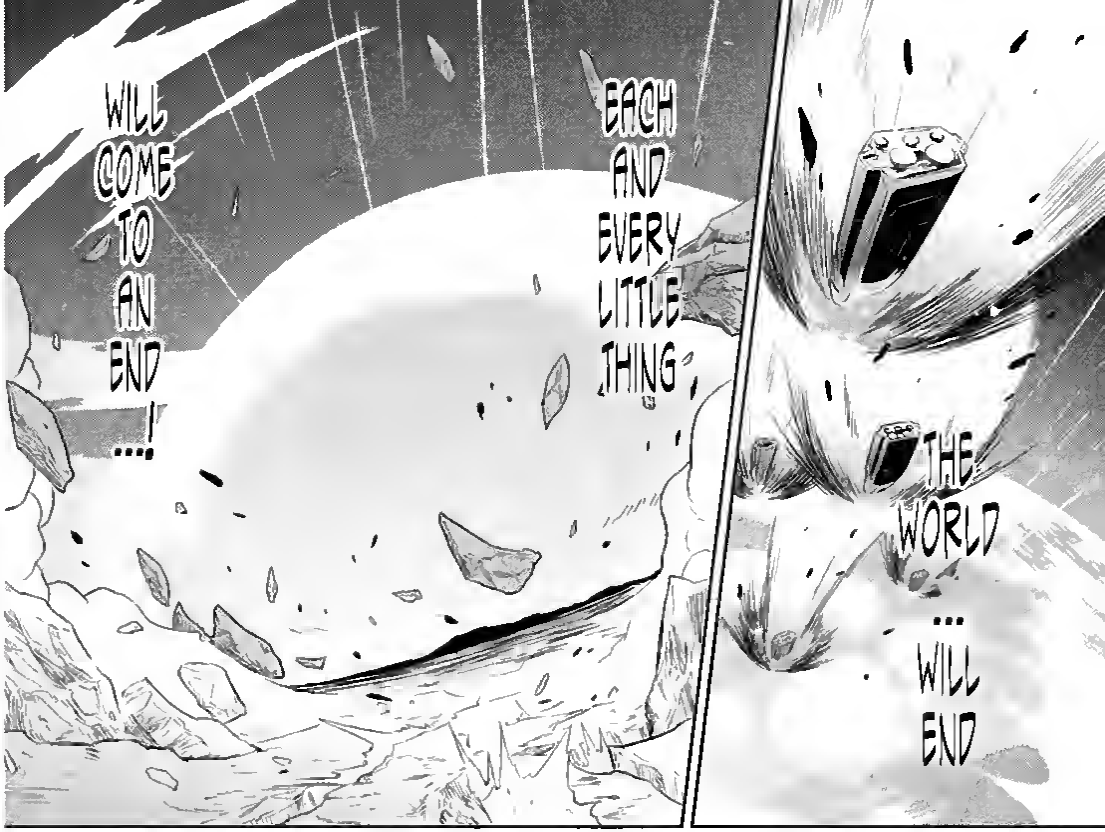
WOOSH
I HAVE TO MEET THAT PERSON
THAT PERSON IS THE ONLY ONE WHO CAN COMPLETE ALTERNATIVE 4 ...!
SHIROGANE ...
TAKERU ?

...
...
IN ANY EVENT, HE HAS TOO MANY SUSPICIOUS POINTS ABOUT HIM, AND... HAVE ANY IDEAS ?
YES... HE'S INSISTING ON MEETING WITH YOU, VICE-COMMANDER, BUT
UN
...SORRY, BUT HE'S NOT ON MY SCHEDULE, NOR DO I RECALL HIM
CREAK
...
...
THEN... WE SHALL TAKE APPROPRIATE MEASURES HERE
CLACK
YES PLEASE DO
SHIROGANE ... TAKERU ... IS IT
BOLDLY, FROM THE FRONT, THE VISITOR IS RATHER UNUSUAL, ISN'T HE
I WONDER WHAT ON EARTH ARE HIS INTENTIONS ? ...HUHU
...
...
STAND BY FOR THIS

YASHIRO...
WHOP!
...!?
NOT EVEN A WARNING
WHAT DID I DO !?
VICE-COMMANDER KOUDZUKI SAYS SHE DOESN'T KNOW ANY MAN BY THE LIKES OF YOU !
STAND UP ! YOU'RE UNDER ARREST

I CANNOT WASTE TIME IN SUCH A PLACE !!
IT'S NO JOKE ...!
ACCORDING TO MY MEMORY... IF I'M DETAINED HERE, I'LL BE SPENDING SEVERAL DAYS BEING THROWN INTO THE BRIG
COME NOW COME ALONG PEACEFULLY !
GRAB!
UN
SWEEP
SWEEP
GUOH!
YANK
!?
I HAVE NO TIME TO DEAL WITH THIS SORT OF THING
LET ME TALK TO DR. KOUDZUKI DIRECTLY, PLE-...
BANG!
Y- YOU BASTARD ...
WHATEVER YOU DO, DON'T MOVE !!
CLACK!

THIS IS BAD ...
...I TOLD YOU, DON'T MOVE
SHI-...!
FSHH
IF I'M NOT ABLE TO GET IN CONTACT WITH YUUKO-SENSEI, I WON'T BE ABLE TO DO ANYTHING ...!
THERE WON'T BE A NEXT TIME
THAT'S FAR ENOUGH
WE'LL HAVE YOU COME PEACEFULLY
RUSTLE!
RUSTLE!
RUSTLE!
RUSTLE!
!!
RUSH!
DAMN IT...! THERE'S NO TIME TO SPARE TO BE SLOWING DOWN IN A SPOT LIKE THIS ...!
OTHERWISE... IF I LEAVE IT ALONE AS IT IS ...!

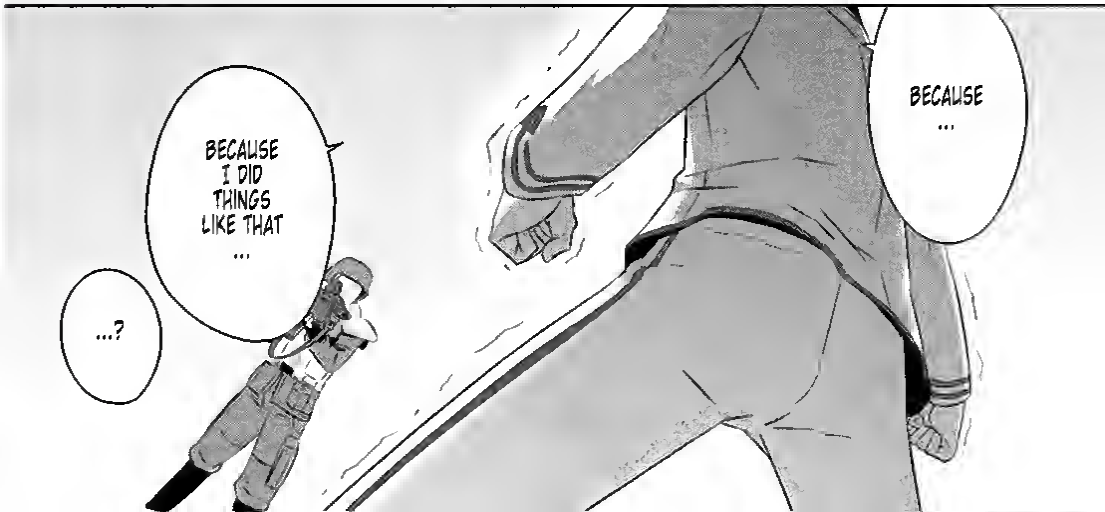


I NOT THINK LIKE THAT

WHEN DID I EVER

"IT'S LIKE, A WORLD WAR LIKE THIS HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH ME"

"I'M A MAN FROM ANOTHER WORLD"



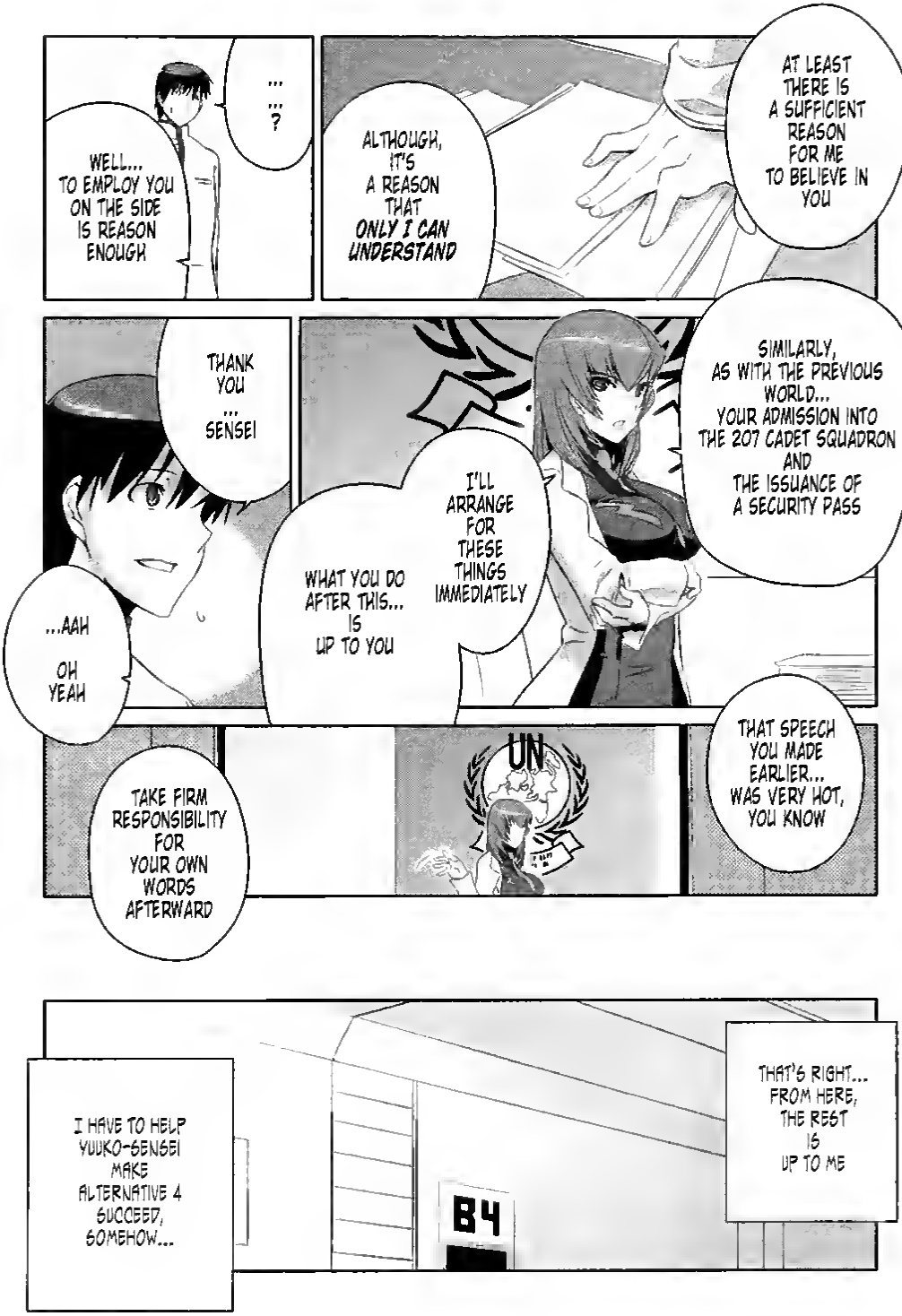
YOU GUYS... YOU WERE BORN IN THIS WORLD, AND YOU WERE BROUGHT UP IN THIS WORLD, RIGHT !?
YOU DON'T BELIEVE THAT I WANT TO SAVE THIS WORLD !!
BECAUSE I DID THINGS LIKE THAT, WE WERE DEFEATED BY THE BETA, YOU KNOW ...!
WE SHOULD BE POINTING OUR GUNS AT THE BETA, RIGHT ...
YOU SHOULD REALIZE THAT THIS IS NOT A SITUATION WHERE YOU SHOULD THRUST YOUR GUNS TOWARDS A HUMAN BEING, OKAY ...!?
THAT I WANT TO REGAIN WHAT WAS TAKEN FROM ME... SO YOU DON'T BELIEVE ME !?
S- SILENCE (GASP) !!
JAKLAK
KLAK!
SHI- (GASP) ...
FUSTLE
!!
... BOISTEROUS, HUH

AH
...
YUUKO-SENSEI ...!!
...I DON'T RECALL HAVING YOU AS A STUDENT, YOU KNOW ?
...?

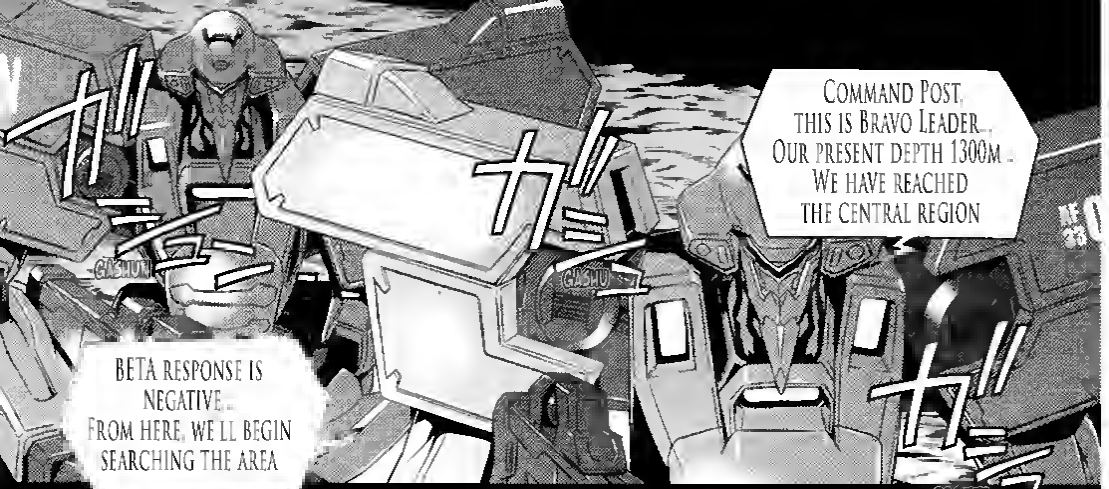
I SEE...
UN
...
...

...I NEVER IMAGINED... THAT MY OWN THEORY WOULD NECESSARILY BE PROVEN IN A SHAPE LIKE THIS
RUSTLE
IT WAS SOMETHING THAT I WAS INTERESTED IN
...AND TO SUMMARIZE YOUR STORY
YOU, FOR SOME REASON, HAVE MOVED BETWEEN COMPLETELY DIFFERENT WORLDS
FURTHERMORE, YOU PERSONALLY EXPERIENCED GOING BACK IN TIME...
...THAT'S RIGHT
THAT WAS ON DECEMBER 24 ...
OCT
WHICH IS IN ANOTHER 2 MONTHS ...IS IT
AND WITH THE FAILURE OF ALTERNATIVE 4
YOU WITNESSED THE COMMENCEMENT OF ALTERNATIVE 5 AFTER THAT...

KOUDZUKI YUUKO-SENSEI... IN THE PREVIOUS WORLD, SHE'S THE PERSON WHO COOPERATED WITH ME, KNOWING MY UNIQUE CIRCUMSTANCE
SHE'S THE VICE-COMMANDER HERE — THE YOKOHAMA BASE OF THE UNITED NATIONS IN THE PACIFIC REGION
IN OTHER WORDS, THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER OF ALTERNATIVE 4
I WONDER IF THIS MEANS... WE HAVE... CERTAIN INTERESTS WE CAN AGREE UPON
WITHOUT THIS PERSON'S COOPERATION — I WOULD HAVE NO PLACE IN THIS WORLD TO RESIDE...
THAT'S TRUE
THE INFORMATION THAT I HAVE WOULD BE OF NO USE WHATSOEVER IF YOU WEREN'T HERE
ALTERNATIVE 4 CAN'T POSSIBLY SUCCEED WITHOUT YOU, SENSEI...
...
...
...
YES
...
...
...
UHM... DO YOU BELIEVE MY STORY ...?


...
...
?
WELL... TO EMPLOY YOU ON THE SIDE IS REASON ENOUGH
ALTHOUGH, IT'S A REASON THAT ONLY I CAN UNDERSTAND
AT LEAST THERE IS A SUFFICIENT REASON FOR ME TO BELIEVE IN YOU
THANK YOU ... SENSEI
...AAH OH YEAH
WHAT YOU DO AFTER THIS... IS UP TO YOU
I'LL ARRANGE FOR THESE THINGS IMMEDIATELY
SIMILARLY, AS WITH THE PREVIOUS WORLD... YOUR ADMISSION INTO THE 207 CADET SQUADRON AND THE ISSUANCE OF A SECURITY PASS
TAKE FIRM RESPONSIBILITY FOR YOUR OWN WORDS AFTERWARD
UN
THAT SPEECH YOU MADE EARLIER... WAS VERY HOT, YOU KNOW
I HAVE TO HELP YUUKO-SENSEI MAKE ALTERNATIVE 4 SUCCEED, SOMEHOW...
B4
THAT'S RIGHT... FROM HERE, THE REST IS UP TO ME

...BUT WHAT DO I DO ?
HOW CAN I SET INTO MOTION A HUGE THING LIKE, SAY, AN ALTERNATIVE PLAN ...
ALTHOUGH I HAVE INFORMATION ABOUT THE FUTURE
UH ! M
JOG JOG
AH... SORRY !
... OH !
DUMP
HM ... !?
...?
...IS SOMETHING ON MY FACE ...?
NO THE FAULT IS MINE...
THE REASON WHY I'M IN A HURRY !
MEIYA ... ... !?



AUGUST 9, 1999 - YOKOHAMA HIVE F STRATUM

episode:02

BRAVO LEADER, THIS IS COMMAND POST
WAS THERE SOMETHING HAPPENING? REPORT ON THE SITUATION
IT'S.. HUMANS
THERE ARE THINGS, LIKE COUNTLESS, THIN PILLARS, IN THE CENTER OF THE HOLE..
NOW, FROM WHAT I CAN SEE AT THE MAXIMUM DISTANCE I HAVE CONFIRMED..
DON'T LET YOUR GUARD DOWN IT SEEMS THERE WERE ENEMIES STILL SURVIVING ON DELTA SQUADRON'S SIDE ..HM?
LIEU- LIEUTENANT
WHAT'S WRONG! WAS THERE SOMETHING!?
THE MIGHT OF THE G-BOMB. IT'S TREMENDOUS, ISN'T IT
IT WAS SO MUCH, IT CLEANED OUT THE SHIT-DRIP BETA ONCE AND FOR ALL
..THE HELL.. ..IS THAT? SOMETHING IN THE MIDDLE OF THE HOLE..
WHAT IS IT..? IT'S LIKE NUMEROUS PILLARS OR SOMETHING COMING FROM THE FLOOR.
..GOING TOWARDS.. ..THE CEILING?

WHAT THE HELL... YOU SHIT BASTARDS
BRAVO LEADER THIS IS COMMAND POST WHAT'S WRONG? ARE THERE SURVIVORS!?
REPORT ON THE SITUATION! I REPEAT, REPORT ON THE SITUATION! WHAT HAPPENED!
SFX: KI KI KI— = DRAMATIC TENSION, EMPHASIZING DANGER OR A CRISIS
THEY'RE BRAINS...
THEY'RE HUMAN... ...BRAINS...!!

OCTOBER 23, 2001 - UNITED NATIONS PACIFIC REGION 11TH ARMY - YOKOHAMA BASE
SKRU
NCH!
ALL RIGHT ! NEXT !
A 10K MARCH WHILE SHOULDERING YOUR CAGE EQUIPMENT !
R-...ROGER !

WITH YUUKO-SENSEI'S ARRANGEMENTS, I WAS ONCE AGAIN ASSIGNED TO THE 207TH PLATOON
FOR NOW, IF I DON'T DO THE THINGS THAT I CAN DO WITH THIS SITUATION...
HM... WHAT IS MY GEAR INCOMPLETE...
IF IT'S TRUE... I DON'T HAVE TIME TO BE DOING THINGS OVER AGAIN IN A PLACE LIKE THIS, BUT... IT'S NOT LIKE I HAVE 100% OF SENSEI'S CONFIDENCE, EITHER
PIYUU
...I SEE, SHIROGANE YOU HAD RECEIVED A DRAFT EXEMPTION UP TO NOW, DIDN'T YOU
HM?
AH ... THAT'S ...
AND BECAUSE OF THAT, I SEE THAT YOU HAVE EXCESS STAMINA LEFT OVER

THEN YOU MUST DO IT WITH YOUR GEAR COMPLETE !!
AND WHILE YOU'RE AT IT, YOU WILL PROCEED BY CARRYING YOUR SQUAD SUPPORT DUMMY FIREARM!
GEH !
UN
R-ROGER !!
DASH!
HM ? YOU DON'T SEEM TO BE VERY HAPPY
YOU STILL NEED MORE...
AT THE TIME THAT THE END OF THE WORLD WAS APPROACHING... I THOUGHT I WAS IMPRUDENT
HONESTLY IT'S A BIT NICE
BUT... THE FACT THAT I AM ABLE TO BE TOGETHER WITH EVERYONE AGAIN, EVEN IN THIS APPEARANCE
...MARIMO-CHAN
ONCE AGAIN... I AM INDEBTED TO YOU

NO WAY ...
HAH
YOU HAVE HEAVIER EQUIPMENT THAN US... AND YET...
HAH
I'M AHEAD (GASP)
...
...!
EVEN WHEN I WAS HIT BY THE GUARD AT THE GATE, I DIDN'T SUSTAIN CONSIDERABLE DAMAGE, AND... EVEN THOUGH I'VE GONE BACK IN TIME, MY MEMORY AND PHYSICAL STRENGTH REMAIN AS IS FROM THE PREVIOUS WORLD...
NO MATTER HOW MUCH I RUN WITH FULL GEAR, IT'S NOT A PROBLEM FOR ME AT ALL NOW
...
...
WHEN COMPARING IT TO THE TIME I WAS IMPELLED TO LEAVE BEHIND EVERYTHING, MY PHYSICAL STRENGTH IN THE PREVIOUS WORLD WAS NON-EXISTENT... THIS DIFFERENCE IS HUGE

SHIROGANE !!
HA HA..
NOW, IT'S LIKE I UNDERSTAND THE CLASS REP'S FEELINGS, DON'T I...
CONVERSELY SPEAKING... THE OLD ME WAS CONSIDERABLY TROUBLESOME TO EVERYONE, WASN'T HE
UH ...
EXPLAIN THE POINTS I MADE RIGHT NOW ! IF YOU HAVE THAT MUCH FLEXIBILITY, IT SHOULD BE EASY, RIGHT
YOU MUST HAVE SOME NERVE NOT TO PAY ATTENTION TO MY LECTURES, DON'T YOU...
AH (GASP) ... Y-YES, MA'AM !!
OH CRAP !
CLAT
TERRR!
EXPLAIN THE RESPONSE TO THE EXAMPLE STRATEGIC OPERATION IS IT...
... LET'S SEE
THAT MEANS DOING PUSH-UPS ...
IF YOU LOSE FOCUS IN FRONT OF PROFESSOR JINGUUJI...
WHISPER ...
Y- YEAH...

THIS EXAMPLE IS THE SUPPORT ACTION JUST BEFORE THE STRATEGIC OPERATION... A PROTOTYPICAL REAR DISTURBANCE
...
OH ... AND WHY IS THAT ?
THEREFORE... IT IS PREFERABLE TO IDENTIFY AND BLOW UP THE HIGH-VOLTAGE ELECTRICAL POWER LINE THAT IS STRETCHED FROM THE FACILITY
BECAUSE, IN THIS EXAMPLE, YOU ARE NOT LIMITED TO "THE NEUTALIZATION OF THE RADAR FACILITY" AND A CERTAIN SUBSTANTIAL "DESTRUCTION"
HMM...
IT STRESSES THE LIKELIHOOD OF FRIENDLY FORCES REUSING THE FACILITY AFTER OCCUPATION
SFX. ZAWA! (ざわっ)= CROWD COMMOTION, MURMUR CHATTER
IN THIS CASE... THE RISK IS ALSO LOWER VERSUS THE CASE WHERE YOU TAKE AIM DIRECTLY AT THE FACILITY
ZA WA!
BECAUSE THE AMOUNT OF EXPLOSIVES TO BE CARRIED IS SMALL, I THINK THAT THE SUCCESS RATE... AND THE SURVIVAL RATE OF PERSONNEL, TOO, IS HIGH
...NOTHING FURTHER TO SAY
... ...
FOR BEING ABSENT-MINDED, YOU WERE COMPARATIVELY STRAIGHT... YOU MAY SIT

YOU'RE AMAZING, SHIROGANE-SAN !!
LIKE, TO ANSWER LIKE THAT RIGHT AWAY !
DID YOU STUDY THAT FROM SOMEWHERE !?
...HM ?
UMHM... I WAS ASTONISHED, TOO
TO COME UP WITH REUSING THE FACILITY FROM THAT EXERCISE
...GET IT ON, SHIROGANE
...IS THAT SO ?
IT IS SO, YOU KNOW !
EVEN DURING OUR TRAINING EARLIER, YOU SEEMED UNSATISFIED THAT YOU DIDN'T HAVE YOUR FULL GEAR, AND...
YOU'RE ABLE TO DO IT NATURALLY JUST LIKE THAT !
...THAT'S HARSH, CLASS REP
IT'S NOT CLASS REP, IT'S SQUAD LEADER !!
JEEZ... IF I TOLD YOU HOW MANY TIMES

THE COMPREHENSIVE COMBAT SKILLS ASSESSMENT EXERCISE... THERE WAS SOMETHING LIKE THAT, TOO, WASN'T THERE...
IF WE PASS THAT, THERE'S THE TACTICAL MACHINE TRAINING, NO DOUBT... IS THERE
I STILL... YOU CERTAINLY DO SEEM TO BE A QUICK-THINKER, HUH
BECAUSE THE GENERAL WAR SKILLS EXERCISE IS NOT EVEN A MONTH AWAY ALREADY... FRANKLY, I APPRECIATE THAT
IN THE PREVIOUS WORLD, WE WERE ABLE TO PASS, SOMEHOW, BUT... SINCE I WAS AN AMATEUR, MY ONLY STRONGPOINT WAS BEING AN EXCESS BAGGAGE, WASN'T IT...
BUT, IF IT'S THE CURRENT ME, I SHOULD BE ABLE... TO PULL MY WEIGHT
WELL... I'LL DO MY BEST TO LIVE UP TO THAT
IF YOU DO THAT FOR ANOTHER WEEK, YOROI WILL BE BACK
WE WANT TO MAKE THE 207TH PLATOON THE STRONGEST TEAM BY THEN
WELL INFORMED, ARE YOU... IN ORDER TO BECOME A GUARDSMAN, WE CANNOT FAIL HERE
I HEAR THAT YOU'RE "A SPECIAL PERSON" FROM THE PROFESSOR, BUT... THOSE WORDS RAISE MY EXPECTATIONS
YOROI ...
YOROI MIKOTO
SHE'S BEING HOSPITALIZED FOR AN INJURY, NOW, BUT... THERE'S NO ONE WHO EXCELS MORE WITH THE KNOWLEDGE OF SURVIVAL

IN ORDER TO ALLOW ALTERNATIVE 4 TO SUCCEED
YEAH... WE ABSOLUTELY MUST PASS
WHEN YOROI-SAN RETURNS ...
IT'LL BE GOOD THIS TIME, YOU KNOW !!
BAF
... HUU
... ...
FOR THE TIME BEING, I CAN CERTAINLY EARN EVERYONE'S TRUST, CAN'T I...
THAT'S NATURAL, I GUESS... I CERTAINLY DON'T RECALL BEING IN COMBAT, BUT SOMEHOW OR OTHER, I WORKED AS A GUARDSMAN FOR TWO YEARS
COMPARED TO THE PREVIOUS WORLD... EVIDENTLY, EVERYONE'S PERCEPTION OF ME IS DIFFERENT

IN THE END, IT WASN'T IN TIME FOR ALTERNATIVE 4 ...
THAT'S RIGHT, ISN'T IT... ALTHOUGH I SAY I WAS A GUARDSMAN, IT WAS TOO LATE IN THE PREVIOUS WORLD
NOW IS NOT YET THE TIME FOR YOU TO KNOW THAT... YOU ARE STILL CADETS
SUCH IS... THE ARMED FORCES
IN THE ARMED FORCES, NO MATTER HOW STRONG MY WILL IS... NO MATTER HOW MUCH I BELIEVE I WANT TO PROTECT THIS PLANET (STAR) ...
WITHOUT POWER AND INFLUENCE, THERE IS NO MEANING... WITH THE BASE COMMANDER'S WORDS, I REALIZED THAT MUCH THAT I HATED IT
... ...
THAT IS RIGHT... SUPPOSING IF WE BECOME GUARDSMEN SOONER... WE MAY EVEN BE ABLE TO HELP YUUKO-SENSEI FIRSTHAND
...WE MAY BE ASSIGNED THE DUTY TO SUPPORT ALTERNATIVE 4 ...!
ABRUPTLY
IS THAT RIGHT ...!

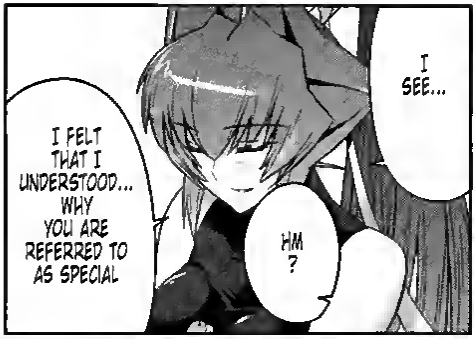
YES... AS LONG AS WE CAN BE APPOINTED !!...
IF WE OBTAIN RANK... THE WEIGHT OF OUR REMARKS WILL BE ENTIRELY DIFFERENT
I WILL... GRADUATE AS SOON AS POSSIBLE AND BECOME A GUARDSMAN
THE THING THAT I SHOULD DO IN ORDER TO MAKE ALTERNATIVE 4 ...A SUCCESS
...AND ?
YOU DECIDED WHAT ?
THINGS CAME OUT AGAIN IN A BIG WAY... WITH THE BASE COMMANDER, DID IT
EVEN IF THE MILITARY INTELLIGENCE IS THE SAME, THE WEIGHT OF IT IS COMPLETELY DIFFERENT WHEN A CADET SAYS IT AND WHEN A BASE COMMANDER SAYS IT
CADETS ARE NOT EVEN WORTH CONSIDERING TO SUPPORT THE PLAN... EVEN IF APPROVED BY YOU, SENSEI

SMILE
...
HEEH
FIRST OF ALL, YOU'RE MAKING GOOD USE OF THAT HEAD OF YOURS, HUH... THAT'S A GOOD THING
...THIS IS GOOD, ISN'T IT ? IT'LL BE A CONVENIENT STORY FOR ME TO USE
PLEASE PUT ME AT EASE BY BECOMING GREAT QUICKLY
THE CARDS I HOLD AT THE MOMENT
JUST MY SKILLS AS A SOLDIER, AND THE INFORMATION ABOUT THE FUTURE
...
...
HERE, IN THE ARMED FORCES, IN ORDER TO MAKE THE BEST USE OF THAT... RANK IS NECESSARY
...OH ?
NEXT UP INDEPENDENT TRAINING AT THE SPORTS GROUND, BUT...
IF THAT SETTLES THAT, I CAN'T KEEP STILL
SMA
...ALL RIGHT !
GK!

SPLASH
MEIYA ...
UHM... WRONG MITSURUGI... IS IT
HM? ...WHAT IS IT SHIROGANE, IS IT
REALLY, WE'VE JUST MET AND YOU'RE CALLING ME BY MY FIRST NAME...
IT MAY BE OKAY WITH SAKAKI, BUT YOU SHOULD KNOW A THING ABOUT PROPRIETY
MY BAD I'LL TAKE HEED
...MITSURUGI, WERE YOU RUNNING UP TO NOW ?
YEAH... FOR THE TIME BEING, IT'S MY DAILY ROUTINE
HEEH... YOU'RE WORKING HARD, AREN'T YOU

THAT'S RIGHT... I FAINTLY RECALL HAVING SUCH A CONVERSATION...
MAY I ASK... WHAT IT IS ?
IS THAT SO...
I ALSO HAVE SOMETHING THAT I WANT TO PROTECT
...IT'S A COMMON STORY, BUT...
MITSURUGI ...
COUNTRY, THE MEANING THAT THIS WORD HOLDS... MEIYA TAUGHT ME THAT IN THE PREVIOUS WORLD...
BECAUSE THERE IS NO COUNTRY WHERE THERE ARE NO PEOPLE...
IT'S THE PEOPLE WHO I WANT TO PROTECT
THE SOUL AND THE WILL OF THE JAPANESE PEOPLE...
AND... THIS COUNTRY CALLED JAPAN (NIPPON)
... ... IT'S THIS PLANET (STAR) ...AND THE PEOPLE OF THIS COUNTRY

DON'T YOU HAVE SOMETHING ?
...SHIROGANE
HM ?
...YEAH
...I HAVE, YOU KNOW
IT'S THE EARTH AND ...
LE!
RUS
THE WHOLE HUMAN RACE


I SEE...
I FELT THAT I UNDERSTOOD... WHY YOU ARE REFERRED TO AS SPECIAL
HM ?

...IT'S NOT LIKE I WAS PARTICULARLY COMPETING WITH YOU, Y'KNOW ?
... ...

THAT'S RIGHT... BUT, I NEVER THOUGHT ABOUT SUCH THINGS AT FIRST, Y KNOW ?
BUT BEFORE I KNEW IT, I HAVE GROWN TO THINK SO
... ...
IS THIS SOMETHING CALLED... THE BELIEF OF TRYING TO ACCOMPLISH SOMETHING...

YOU SEEM TO HAVE HABITUALLY AQUIRED CONSIDERABLE SELF-DISCIPLINE, AND YET...
ON TOP OF THAT, IS IT... FOR THE SAKE OF THE THINGS YOU WANT TO PROTECT ?

...THOSE ARE NICE WORDS
YOU ORIGINALLY TOLD ME THAT, MEIYA

IT'S "IF THERE IS A PURPOSE, A PERSON CAN ACHIEVE GREAT EFFORT"... ...
... ISN'T IT

EH ?
AH ... OH CRAP (GASP) !
AH ! MY BAD ! I CALLED YOU BY YOUR FIRST NAME
... GOOD
NOW THEN... I'LL GO BACK, AND IT'S MY BAD FOR DETAINING YOU TOO LONG
IS THAT SO...
SEE YOU AGAIN TOMORROW
YEAH
THUD
... ...
IF THERE IS A PURPOSE, A PERSON CAN ACHIEVE GREAT EFFORT ...IS IT
IT'S NOT JUST MEIYA... I WAS TAUGHT VARIOUS THINGS BY THOSE GUYS, WASN'T I...

I HAVE TO PRACTICE... FOR THOSE GUYS' SAKE...
JOG!
...
SHIROGANE
...
...
IS IT

episode:03

ALL RIGHT
ASSEMBLY COMPLETE
SLAP!
...4 MINUTES ...52 SECONDS
NO WAY
SHIROGANE-SAN
YOU'RE EVEN MORE FIRED UP TODAY, SOMEHOW, HUH...
YO ! WELL, YOU KNOW
FLIP!
FOR NOW, SINCE I MADE MY CURRENT OBJECTIVE ...
I CAN'T BE SLACKING OFF UNTIL I BECOME A GUARDSMAN
UNTIL NOW, AYAMINE'S RECORD OF 6 MINUTES 17 SECONDS WAS THE BEST, WASN'T IT...
AND THE BEGINNER WAS ABLE TO EASILY REPAINT OVER THAT ? YOU GRUNTS MUST BE DILIGENT YOURSELVES, TOO !
YES, MA'AM !!

...THE BELLY CAN'T GRUMBLE AT ALL WHEN SHOWN THE VARIETY HERE
...YOU'RE OVER-OVER-REACHING ...
DID YOU SAY SOMETHING, AYAMINE ? BECAUSE I WON'T BE LETTING YOU BREAK THE RECORD FOR A WHILE
WELL ! ... DON'T PRAISE ME SO MUCH, WILL YOU I'LL BECOME ARROGANT, Y'KNOW ? I WILL
THAT'S TRUE, HUH ! IT SEEMS, EVEN WITH THE OTHER TRAINING ...YOU'RE INCREDIBLE, YOU KNOW, SHIROGANE-SAN
... ...
WHAT WAS THAT !? THAT WAS AYAMINE, JUST NOW AYAMINE !!
...FOR YOU, IT'S IMPOSSIBLE MUR-MUR
WE CAN'T HAVE THAT, CAN WE EVEN I WON'T LET YOU WIN SO EASILY NEXT TIME, YOU KNOW ?

IF DOING THIS PROVES TO MOTIVATE EVERYONE, IT WILL LEAD TO RAISING THE STANDARDS OF THE WHOLE SQUAD
...THAT'S RIGHT... I THOUGHT IT WAS UNNATURAL EVEN IF I OVERLY DID TOO WELL, BUT... THIS IN ITSELF IS NOT BAD, PERHAPS, ISN'T IT
I WANT TO ASK YOU ALL, BUT...
IS THERE SOMETHING ... YOU STRONGLY WANT TO PROTECT ?
WHATEVER YOU DO IN THE MILITARY IS EVALUATED BY TEAM UNITS... IT'S TOTAL NONSENSE THAT I, ALONE, WOULD BE ABLE TO DO EVERYTHING
WHOA WHOA
... HEY
WHY ALL OF A SUDDEN ...
... ...
IF THERE IS A PURPOSE, A PERSON CAN ACHIEVE GREAT EFFORT ...IS IT ?
I... THOUGHT THAT ONE'S OWN LIFE WAS THE MOST IMPORTANT THING, UNTIL AROUND 2 YEARS AGO
IT IS CERTAINLY IMPORTANT UP TO NOW

BUT, EVEN IF THAT WAS IN JEOPARDY, THERE ARE SOME THINGS THAT ONE MUST PROTECT
EVEN IF THE MOST IMPORTANT THING TO PROTECT IS ONE'S OWN LIFE ... THERE ARE YET SOME OTHER IMPORTANT THINGS ONE CAN'T PROTECT BY HIS OWN POWER ALONE
... ...!
...IT WAS YOU WHO TAUGHT ME THAT
I SEE...
AND, SO YOU CAME HERE, REJECTING A DRAFT EXEMPTION, IS IT...
...THAT'S RIGHT, ISN'T IT

IF THOSE GUYS WHO HAVE STRONG WILLS AND HIGH MOTIVES DON'T COOPERATE WITH EACH OTHER, THEY CAN NEVER DEFEAT THE BETAs
THE LOSS CAUSED BY ONE PERSON AMONG US MAKING A MISTAKE... IS NOT JUST THAT GUY'S LOSS
I... GET IT !
THAT'S WHY ... Y'SEE
CLENCH!
WE MUST ALSO WORK HARD ... AS A TEAM
... ...
YES !!
... UM-HM
...THAT'S RIGHT, HUH LET'S DO OUR BEST
...AND RIGHT AT THE PART WHERE THE SERIOUS TALK HAS ENDED — IT IS
?

SASAKI, MAY I CALL YOU "CLASS REP"?
HAA!?
WHY LEAP FROM THE IMMEDIATE CONVERSATION TO THAT ALL OF A SUDDEN!
BECAUSE WE'RE COMRADE-IN-ARMS WHO WATCH EACH OTHERS BACK, RIGHT?
I'M THE NEWCOMER, AND THERE SHOULD BE A MUTUAL SENSE OF RAPPORT, SHOULDN'T THERE
...YOU WERE SERIOUS, WEREN'T YOU...
FOR THAT REASON, MAY I BE ALLOWED, IN A SENSE
THAT'S NORMAL
TO CALL YOU
MEIYA, TAMA, AND AYAMINE... PERHAPS
BECAUSE, EITHER TAKERU OR SHIROGANE IS FINE WITH ME, Y'SEE
I'M AMAZED...
TO THINK THAT YOU'RE MAKING A RATHER GOOD ARGUMENT
HUHU... WELL IT'S OKAY, I GUESS
I'M LIKE A CAT...
...
...
SECOND HELPING

SPECIAL ... IS HE
SAKAKI ?
NO IT'S NOTHING
THE SENSE OF DISTANCE WITH EVERYONE IS SO-SO, ISN'T IT...
TUG STRETCH
ANTICIPATING MIKOTO'S RETURN AFTERWARD, IF WE CLEAR THE GENERAL WAR SKILLS EXERCISE, THEN...
... ...
THAT'S RIGHT ...
RUSTLE
THERE'S ONE MORE I MUST EMPLOY

KASUMI
UNITED NATIONS
SPECIAL PERMIT
ALTERNATIVE IV
KASUMI ISN'T ANYWHERE !?
THAT IS CERTAIN... THE DAY OF THE LAUNCH OF THE LAST DESTROYER
NO... KASUMI IS PROBABLY ON THE 19TH FLOOR, UNDERGROUND, AN S4 LEVEL FLOOR
UNDER THE PRESENT CONDITIONS IF YOU DON'T HAVE MY RETINA PATTERN AND ID, YOU CAN'T ENTER ... I'LL GO
THAT'S RIGHT ... AND THERE ISN'T MUCH TIME BEFORE THE LAST LAUNCH
IF YOU HAVE ANY IDEAS, THE REST OF US CAN SEARCH FOR HER...

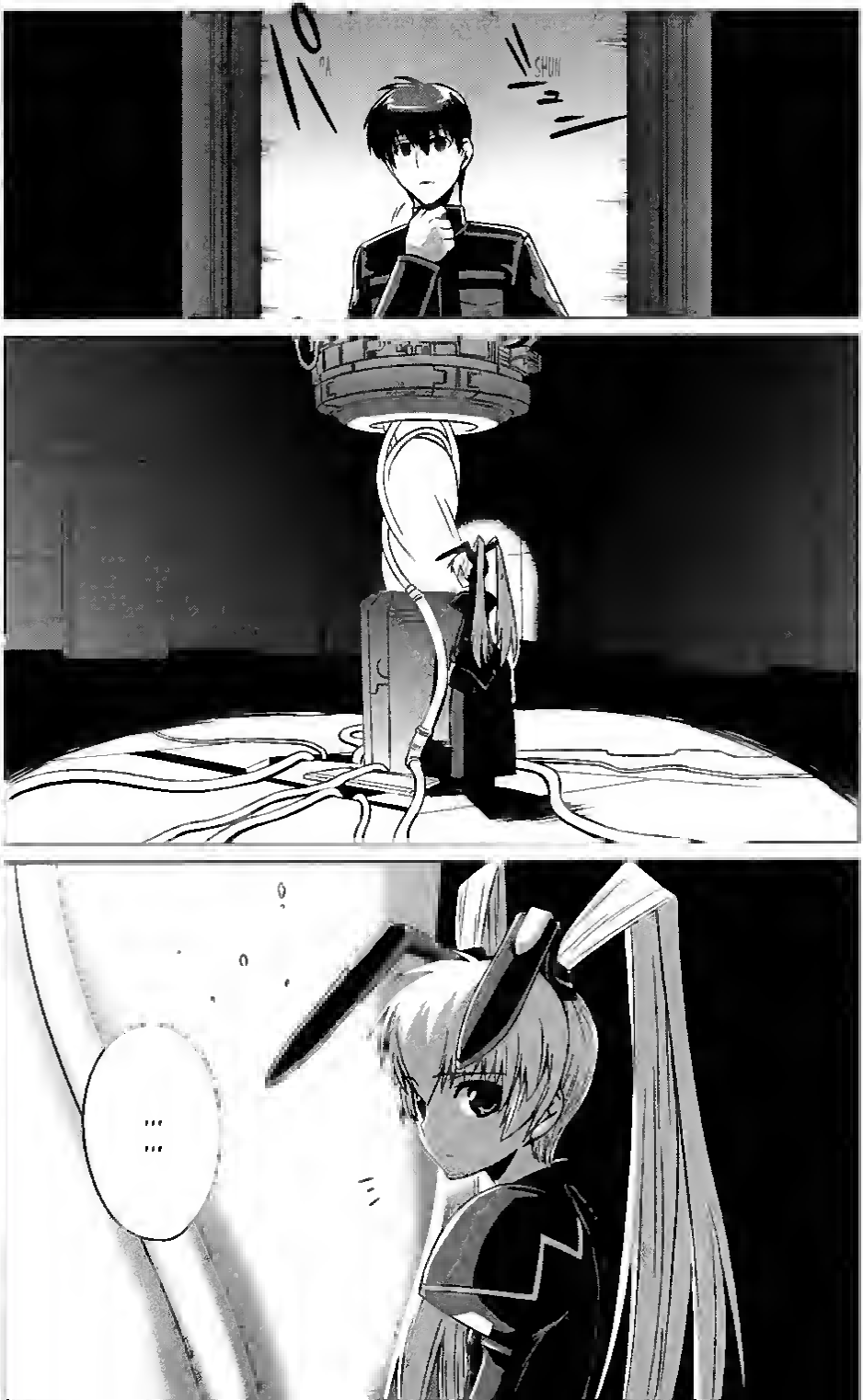
S4, YOU SAY ...
SHIROGANE WHO IN THE WORLD ...!?
KASUMI ARE YOU HERE !?

...NO (GASP)!
IF I LEAVE THIS PLACE... ...WILL DISAPPEAR ...!
WHAT ARE YOU DOING IN SUCH A PLACE
IF YOU DON'T HURRY, THE LAST DESTROYER WILL DEPART
IF WE DON'T RUSH TO THE GATE ...!
I'M FRIGHTENED ... OF THINGS I DON'T UNDERSTAND ...
UNLESS I PROTECT IT ... I WILL LOSE IT
WHAT ARE YOU SAYING
THIS ISN'T THE TIME OR PLACE TO TALK SELFISHLY!
...I'M SCARED
KASUMI ...?
SO WHAT!?

YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND, TAKERU-CHAN!!
DO
KUN
DOKUN = STRONG HEARTBEAT

...WHENEVER I RECALL THAT EXPRESSION...
THAT WAS SUMIKA'S EXPRESSION, WASN'T IT... SO I THINK
...
...
SHE IS MORE INVOLVED WITH THE NUCLEUS OF ALTERNATIVE 4 THAN I AM
THE FACT THAT SHE'S CLOSE BY TO THAT CYLINDER CONTAINING A BRAIN ALL YEAR ROUND... THE LETTERS OF "ALTERNATIVE IV" ENGRAVED ON HER EPAULET...

THE WORDS "TAKERU-CHAN" THAT CAME OUT OF KASUMI'S MOUTH
THERE WAS ONLY ONE PERSON IN MY "FORMER WORLD" WHO CALLED ME THAT


SHUN
...
...

YOU DON'T NEED TO RUN AWAY SO CONSPICUOUSLY, DON'T YOU THINK ?
...
...
YO
SCAMPER
"NICE TO MEET YOU" IS IT...
THAT'S FINE
I CAME BACK TO THE STARTING POINT... IT'S OKAY IF I BEGIN FROM HERE AGAIN
NICE TO MEET YOU
I'M SHIROGANE TAKERU
...AND YOUR NAME IS ?
ALL THE SAME, SHE DOESN'T TELL ME HER NAME AT THE START, DOES SHE ?
...
...
-MI

KASUMI ...
I'M... YASHIRO KASUMI
OOH !? A SUDDEN DEVELOPMENT THIS TIME !?
...UHM, MY BAD
MY MEANING OF "THIS TIME" IS LIKE AMBIGUOUS, ISN'T IT
...I DON'T MIND
CLENCH
STARTLE
IS THAT SO... WELL THEN, KASUMI
STRETCH
IT'S A TINY HAND, ISN'T IT
IN THE "PREVIOUS WORLD," IT WAS RARE FOR US TO BE TOUCHING THIS WAY, TOO
IT'S A COMMEMORATIVE HANDSHAKE

WELL THEN, I GOTTA GO TALK TO YUUKO-SENSEI, Y'KNOW
PERHAPS WE'LL MEET AGAIN, OFTEN, FROM NOW ON
TAKE CARE, 'KAY
TUG!
...
...
...
...WHAT HAPPENED HERE? THIS IS UNUSUAL, HUH
...WHAT'S UP WITH THIS, I WONDER

...WHAT'S THE MATTER ?
YASHIRO
...
...
...
TAP
TAP!
たたっ
HAVING A PRIVATE CONVERSATION MEANS THEY'RE UNCOMFORTABLE IN FRONT OF ME, DOESN'T IT...
...
HEEH
UHM
WHAT IN THE WORLD ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT...
OH MY
I WOULDN'T SAY WE WERE TALKING ABOUT YOU IN PARTICULAR, YOU KNOW ?
KNOWING GRIN
SHE'S LYING
(GASP)
THOSE EYES ABSOLUTELY SAY SHE'S LYING !!

YASHIRO SAYS THAT YOU'RE NORMAL
INDEED ...
AND, WHAT ABOUT TODAY ? YOU CAME HERE TO TALK, RIGHT ?
...IT'S ABOUT KASUMI'S MILITARY INSIGNIA
UNITED NATION FORCE ALTERNATIVE IV
ALTERNATIVE 4 IS WRITTEN ON IT, HUH
I BELIEVE YOU ARE VAGUELY SENSING IT, TOO. BUT...
SHE IS ALSO ONE OF THE IMPORTANT ELEMENTS TO THE PLAN
THAT IMPORTANCE IS NO MATCH FOR SOMEONE LIKE YOU
UHM AND THE CYLINDER CONTAINING A BRAIN, TOO ...?
YES, IT'S IMPORTANT
THAT AND YASHIRO ARE A SET, YOU KNOW

UN
UNITED NATION FORCE
WHAT ... IN THE WORLD IS
ALTERNATIVE 4 ... ?

A PLAN FOR A SINGLE CHILD TO GIVE TO HUMANITY ITS HOPES AND DREAMS — YOU KNOW

.....THEN, YOU'RE SAYING THAT THIS CHILD IS KASUMI, RIGHT ?
BEING ABLE TO SAY THAT IS STRANGE... AS YOU'D EXPECT, THE WORDS OF A GENIUS ARE UNCONVENTIONAL
... ...

...NO COMMENT
HA ?
TO TEACH YOU THAT HERE AND NOW
MAY CHANGE NOT ONLY YOU, BUT EVERYTHING IN THIS WORLD —
—!?
...WH-WHAT DO YOU MEAN BY THAT !?

THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN "THIS WORLD" AND THE "PREVIOUS WORLD" IS THAT YOU
SHIROGANE TAKERU EXISTS HERE POSSESSING PREVIOUS MEMORIES
IN OTHER WORDS, IF YOU DO SOMETHING DIFFERENTLY FROM THE ACTION YOU TOOK IN THE "PREVIOUS WORLD," THEN BY THAT ALONE, THIS WORLD WILL PROCEED TO MOVE TOWARDS A DIFFERENT FUTURE
AND
NO ONE CAN PREDICT THE RESULT OF THAT ACTION
I GET WHAT YOU'RE TELLING ME
IF I KNOW ABOUT ALTERNATIVE 4 AT THIS POINT, THE FUTURE WILL CHANGE
IS IT SOMETHING LIKE THAT ?
BASICALLY, THAT IS CORRECT
THIS IS A GREAT PRINCIPLE THAT YOU MUST NEVER FORGET AS YOU ARE LIVING IN "THIS WORLD"
ALTHOUGH... YOU HAVE BEEN MAKING SUBSTANTIAL CHANGES TO THE SITUATION, ALREADY, HUH ?
...YES, MA'AM

NOW WAY... THEN, THAT MEANS, IT'S ALREADY TOO LATE ...!?
IN OTHER WORDS, FOR ALTERNATIVE 4 TO BE TERMINATED SUDDENLY HERE AND NOW
THAT POSSIBILITY IS MORE LIKELY
YOU MIGHT SAY... AS A RESULT
YOUR MEMORIES OF THE FUTURE, THE THINGS YOU KNOW THAT WILL HAPPEN IN THE FUTURE, WILL BECOME USELESS
I CAN'T DECLARE THAT TO BE SO
DID ANYTHING HAPPEN THESE PAST SEVERAL DAYS THAT WASN'T ENTIRELY IN YOUR OWN MEMORY ?
NO ...
THE CLASS LECTURES AND THE TRAINING, UP TO THE CONTENTS OF THE MEALS, TOO, WERE THE SAME
THAT MEANS, IN A WORD
THE EVENTS THAT YOU CHANGED THUS FAR ARE A TRIVIAL MATTER AS FAR AS THE WORLD IS CONCERNED
THERE'S MORE THAN ONE PATH TO ARRIVE AT A CERTAIN GOAL, AND A SLIGHT CHANGE DOESN'T AFFECT THE CURRENT, GENERAL SITUATION...

I SEE
HM
?
SAY, WAIT A MINUTE, PLEASE !
IN THAT CASE, AT THIS RATE, IT'S NOT LIKE I CANNOT CHANGE THE FUTURE, IS IT !!
...THERE'S ONLY ONE THING TO SAY ABOUT THAT
WHAT IS IT ?
UN
LAPLACE'S DEMON
DOESN'T EXIST ANYMORE

episode:04
LAPLACE'S DEMON DOESN'T EXIST ANYMORE
LAPL-...?
WHAT SORT OF THING IS THAT...?
AS LONG AS IT'S WITHIN THE PRINCIPLES OF QUANTUM MECHANICS, NO ONE CAN PREDICT THE FUTURE
THAT IS EVEN IF THERE WERE BEINGS CALLED GOD AND SATAN

BA
BA
NG!
FIRE !
THE OBJECTIVE, A TARGET AT A DISTANCE OF 100M ! SET THE SELECTOR TO FULL, TAKE AIM, FINGER ON THE TRIGGER, SHOOT !
「THE FUTURE REMAINS UNCERTAIN
TAKE CARE IN DOING WHAT YOU THINK IS BEST」
「FOR THE SAKE OF REINING IN THE FUTURE YOU HOPE FOR ...」
I WILL DO IT ... !
IT MAY BE GOD, IT MAY BE SATAN, WHO IS TOYING WITH MY FATE, BUT
I WILL ABSOLUTELY CHANGE THAT FUTURE !!

PERHAPS, YOU ARE
THE FOCUS OF A UNIQUE PHENOMENON WHO HAS THE POTENTIAL TO MOVE THE WORLD AT A PIVITOL POINT BY THE SWAY OF YOUR WILL
YOUR "ORIGINAL WORLD" AND "PREVIOUS WORLD"
...
THE TWO WORLDS ARE CONSIDERABLY DIFFERENT, HUH
BUT EVEN SO, THIS TIME, YOU CAME BACK TO APPROXIMATELY THE SAME WORLD AGAIN
FWAP
...THAT IS PERHAPS BECAUSE YOU SO WISHED FOR IT
...I DID?

FLAP
-AP
-AP
-AP
-AP
-AP
AND THAT STRONG SENTIMENT IS DETAINING YOU IN THIS WORLD... IT'S APPROPRIATE TO THINK SO
THERE IS SOMETHING YOU HAVE LEFT UNDONE IN THIS WORLD
PUSTLE
526
...
...

BA
BANG
IT'S NOT THAT... I MOVE THE WORLD WITH MY WILL
EVEN IF WHAT I'M TOLD AT THIS POINT IN TIME DOESN'T SURPRISE ME, BUT IN THAT CASE, I'M AN ESPER OR SOMETHING, AM I... THAT'S RIDICULOUS

CLASS REP
EH ?
YOU'RE A LITTLE TOO QUICK TO SHOOT AFTER AIMING, Y'KNOW
IT'S THAT YOU'RE BECOMING TOO ACCUSTOMED TO THE WAY YOU SHOOT IN TRAINING
IT'S OKAY FOR NOW, SINCE THIS IS BASIC TRAINING, BUT
...MY
... ...
IN ACTUALITY, IF YOU'RE DRIVING THE TACTICAL MACHINE, AS MUCH AS THE LOCK-ON AND SUCH ARE AUTOMATED, THE TIMING CHANGES WHEN IT'S FLESH AND BLOOD, RIGHT ?
THE THING IS, WHEN YOU PULL THE TRIGGER TOO EARLY, YOU INSTEAD WASTE BULLETS BEING BLOCKED BY SOME OBSTACLE
YOU SHOULD GET USED TO THAT TIMING RIGHT AWAY
...I SEE
UNDER-STOOD
HOWEVER

!
SHIROGANE ... FROM THE WAY YOU SPEAK
DOKI!!
IT'S SOUNDS LIKE YOU HAVE PILOTED A TACTICAL MACHINE, DON'T YOU THINK
NO (GASP) I JUST HAVE A SECOND-HAND OPINION FROM A GUARDSMAN I KNOW !
...HMMM
TO GO INTO THIS SUBJECT ANY FURTHER IS BAD !
WH-... WHICH REMINDS ME TAMA !
NYA ?
I HEARD THAT YOUR SNIPING SKILLS ARE AWESOME
CAN YOU AIM AT THAT TARGET ? WON'T YOU SHOW YOUR SKILLS TO US A LITTLE ?
SOOM ?
UH I M ... I DON'T KNOWWW

IN "THE PREVIOUS WORLD" SHE ACTUALLY SAVED ALL OF OUR LIVES
SERIOUS GAZE
...THE WAY I SEE IT, TAMA'S SHOOTING IS TRULY AMAZING
THE HSST IS STARTING TO ACCELERATE!
WE DIDN'T KNOW WHO DID IT, BUT SOMEONE HAD SENT AN HSST (A RE-ENTRY MODEL DESTROYER) FILLED WITH EXPLOSIVES PLUNGING TOWARDS THE YOKOHAMA BASE, MAKING IT LOOK ACCIDENTAL
ROAR!
115 SECONDS REMAIN UNTIL IMPACT, ALTITUDE APPROXIMATELY 48 KM, RANGE APPROXIMATELY 405 KM
LOADING. GOOD! TRIGGER TIMING ALIGNED!
YOU CAN PROCEED, OKAY TAMASE!?

YES, MA'AM!
IT'LL BE DETERMINED BY THIS ONE SHOT!

Boom

BO
KRACKLE
KRACKLE
KRACKLE
KRACKLE
KRACKLE
OM
BECAUSE SHE COMPLETELY SHOT DOWN A THING THAT SEEMED AT A DISTANCE ABOUT THE SIZE OF A SESAME SEED PLUNGING DOWN OUTSIDE OF THE ATMOSPHERE
THE TAMA FROM THAT TIME WAS TRULY AMAZING

NOTE FOR SFX ON PANEL 6.
ZA! (ザ！) CAN BE A DRAMATIC EFFECT INDICATING STRENGTH OR ENERGY, OR A RUSTLING SOUND OR WHITE NOISE

SURELY, CHANGING THE FUTURE DOESN'T MEAN THAT TAMA'S ABILITY WILL... DISAPPEAR, DOESN'T IT
YOU DON'T HAVE TO BE SO MODEST, YOU KNOW, TAMASE
HOW ABOUT SHOWING YOUR TRUE STRENGTH TO SHIROGANE ?
... ...
EH... BUT
ISN'T IT ANNOYING THAT WE KEEP LOSING TO THIS GUY ?
KNOCK HIM OUT OF HIS WITS A LITTLE, WILL YOU
YEAH... THAT'S RIGHT, HUH
I'LL TRY !
...ADEPT AT GIVING SOMEONE A LIFT, AREN'T YOU CLASS REP
OH MY SERIOUSLY ?
...BUT, YOU WATCH
BECAUSE HER SHOOTING SKILL IS TRULY AMAZING
ZA! (DRAMATIC EFFECT)

DOW!
HERE BINOCULARS
YO
AS EXPECTED... AT THIS DISTANCE, IT'S RIGHT IN THE CENTER, IS IT
ALL RIGHT... EVEN IN THIS WORLD, TAMA'S SKILL IS IN GOOD HEALTH
IT IS AS EXPECTED, ISN'T IT... I'M IMPRESSED
EHEHE !...
THAT'S RIGHT !
TAKERU-SAN, CAN YOU DO LONG RANGE SHOOTING ?

LONG RANGE SHOOTING IN FRONT OF TAMASE ? YOU HAVE GUTS, HUH
OI OI... IT'S NOT LIKE I THINK I CAN WIN, PARTICULARLY AGAINST TAMA, Y'KNOW
SHOW ME, SHOW ME !
YEAH ! ... BUT, I'M NOT AS ACCURATE AS YOU
EH ? ME ?
WELL THEN, THE TARGET IS OVER THERE, OKAY
ALL OF A SUDDEN, IT'S BSO, IS IT !?
MERCILESS, AREN'T YOU...

GUL?

...
HOW WAS IT ?
...
CAN YOU REALIZE IT AND NOT ASK ?
THA-
...
THAT'S AMAZING, TAKERU-SAN !!

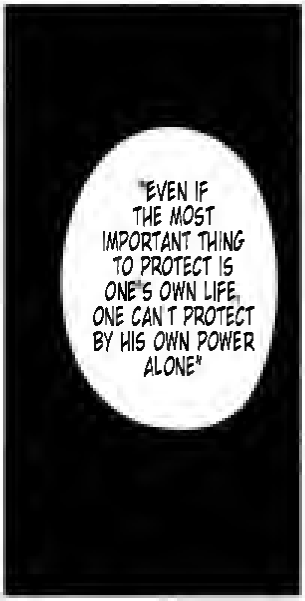
INDEED, TO BE ABLE TO HIT IT IN ONE SHOT...
OTHER THAN TAMASE, IT'S THE FIRST TIME I'VE SEEN SOMEONE DO THAT
IT'S BECAUSE THE RIFLE IS THE ONE TAMA ADJUSTED, ISN'T IT
70% OF SHOOTING SUCCESS IS DECIDED ON THE MAINTENANCE AND ADJUSTMENT ...RIGHT ?
THAT IS SO, BUT ...
LEAVING THAT ASIDE, LET'S GET SOMETHING TO EAT QUICK ! I'M STARVED
...
...
...
...
SHIROGANE
MAY I HAVE ... A MOMENT

WHAT'S THE MATTER ? CLASS REP
...
...
SHIROGANE ...
YOU HAVE MILITARY EXPERIENCE, DON'T YOU ...?
...TELL IT TO ME STRAIGHT
TH- ...
THERE'S NO REASON FOR THAT, RIGHT ?
!!
I WONDER IS THAT SO ?
ALL THE SAME, IT'S STRANGE, YOU KNOW
FOR AN ENLISTED PERSON IT'S LIKE YOU HANDLE ANYTHING MORE EASILY THAN NORMAL
FURTHERMORE, FROM THE LECTURES TO SHOOTING AND MARKSMANSHIP, AND TAIJUTSU, (MARTIAL ARTS) YOU'RE SURPASSING THE STAGES OF CADETS IN TRAINING

HOWEVER, EVEN IF I TOLD HER THE TRUTH...
SHI-... AS EXPECTED, CLASS REP OBSERVES WELL, AND ON TOP OF THAT, SHE'S SHARP...
BECAUSE EVERYONE HERE POSSESSES A THING OR TWO THAT THEY CAN'T SHARE WITH ANYONE
IF IT'S SOMETHING YOU DON'T WANT TO TALK ABOUT, IT'S NO BIG DEAL
BESIDES ...
QUITE HONESTLY, LOOKING AT YOUR ABILITY ALONE, I AM TRULY GRATEFUL THAT YOU CAME HERE TO PARTICIPATE AT THIS TIME
... ...
YES
IF WE FAIL IN THE FOLLOWING, THERE IS NO NEXT TIME FOR US, SO...
AS A SQUAD LEADER... I WANT TO REMOVE ANY MATTERS OF CONCERN, YOU KNOW
THE GENERAL COMBAT SKILLS EXERCISE ...IS IT

IT'S NATURAL FOR THE CLASS REP TO HAVE DOUBTS... MY EXISTENCE IS FAR MORE THAN SUSPICIOUS, AS FAR AS EVERYONE IS CONCERNED
HOWEVER, I CAN'T TELL EVERYONE THE TRUTH —
EVEN NOW, THE CLASS REP COMES SPEAKING TO ME, THINKING ABOUT THE SQUAD, AND YET... SHIT! IT'S FRUSTRATING ...!

YOUR WORDS FROM THAT TIME... I WONDERED IF I MAY BELIEVE IN THEM
EH ?


"EVEN IF THE MOST IMPORTANT THING TO PROTECT IS ONE'S OWN LIFE, ONE CAN'T PROTECT BY HIS OWN POWER ALONE"

IF YOU CAN'T ANSWER THE QUESTION I ASKED EARLIER... TELL ME ONE THING
IF YOU ARE ...
OUR COMRADE — WE CAN BELIEVE THAT IS SO, RIGHT ?
CLASS REP ...

IT'S AS YOU SAY, CLASS REP, THERE ARE THINGS I CAN'T TALK ABOUT FOR VARIOUS REASONS
YOU MAY HEAR ABOUT IT FROM THE VICE-COMMANDER, BUT... THE FACT IS MY CIRCUMSTANCES ARE CERTAINLY A BIT COMPLEX
I
BUT... AT LEAST I WILL NEVER DO ANYTHING TO BETRAY EVERYONE IN THE SQUAD
ONLY WANT TO PROTECT
THIS PLANET (STAR) ... AND THE HUMAN RACE
UNDERSTOOD
IT'S ENOUGH JUST TO HAVE LISTENED TO THAT FOR NOW
MY BAD, ISN'T IT... FOR CAUSING CONCERN
... IS THAT SO

YOU WERE SOMEHOW TRYING TO DO SOMETHING ABOUT EVERYONE'S EQUIVOCAL UNEASINESS IN YOUR OWN SPECIAL WAY
YOU ARE AS I EXPECTED, AREN'T YOU... CLASS REP
IT'S A SQUAD LEADER'S JOB TO CARE ABOUT THE ENVIRONMENT OF THE SQUAD, YOU KNOW
IT IS A TOTALLY DISADVAN-TAGEOUS ROLE
...HA HA HA
ALL RIGHTY ! HAVING CONCLUDED OUR CONVERSATION, LET'S GET SOME GRUB
WH!
AP!
IF WE DON'T HURRY, THOSE GUYS WILL EAT IT ALL UP, CLASS REP !
JEEZ ! STOP IT, WILL YOU
JUST AT A MOMENT LIKE THIS

SFX TATATA = SOUND OF RUNNING FOOTSTEPS
TA
TA
TA
TA
TA
TA
TA
I'LL HAVE TO TRY BEING A LITTLE MORE AFFABLE, LIKE THE OLD ME, I GUESS...
HM ?
I'M NOT IN A SITUATION WHERE I CAN CUT CORNERS BUT... I WAS A LITTLE TOO IMPATIENT, WASN'T I
THE CLASS REP SEEMED TO HAVE COME TO AN UNDER-STANDING, BUT...
THE OTHERS ARE SURE TO FEEL A SIMILAR ANXIETY

POW
!!?
CRRAASH
...
YOWWW
...!
WHAT WAS THAT, ALL OF A SUDDEN ...!?
I-
I'M SORRY
THE PROFESSOR CALLED FOR ME, SO I WAS IN A RUSH...

OWW CHA CHA ...
ARE YOU OKAY ? DIDN'T I ...
RUN INTO YOU RATHER HARD ?
HOWEVER, THIS IS GOOD TIMING ...
MI-MIKOTO !?
...THAT'S RIGHT
TODAY IS THE DAY SHE LEAVES THE HOSPITAL, IS IT...!
IF I DARE TO TAKE "THE SAME ACTION AS I DID BEFORE" HERE, IT SHOULD SOFTEN EVERYONE'S IMPRESSION OF ME ...!

HUH ? AREN'T YOU OKAY ?
WHY YOU ! WHAT A WEIRD THING FOR A GUY TO BE DOING !!
HYAAAA AAAAAH !?
TAKE IT OFF ! TAKE IT OFF RIGHT NOW !!
RUSH!
J-... JUST A MINUTE
WHAT ARE YOU DOING !?
ALL RIGHT ! IT'S AS I REMEMBER DO IT, MIKOTO !
DROP ME ZINGER !
OH ...
CK!

SWIFT!
(GASP)
(GASP)
!?
OOPS
...
WHY IS ONLY SOMETHING LIKE THIS DIFFERENT FROM MY MEMORY ...!
COLLAPSE!
WH-
...
GOOD GRIEF... ISN'T IT STILL RUDE OF YOU TO MISTAKE HER FOR A MAN ?
WEEELL ...
BECAUSE SHE'S TOO MUCH LIKE THE SPLITTING IMAGE OF A GUY I KNOW, I UNINTENTIONALLY ... HM?
SHIROGANE, SHIROGANE ...
JEEZ... HE STARTLED ME, I TELL YOU
HE SUDDENLY STARTED TO STRIP ME
I SERIOUSLY DID IT INSTINCTIVELY, Y'KNOW

...DID YOU SEE IT ?
THAT'S HOW I REALIZED SHE WASN'T A MAN !
COME NOW ... NEXT, WE HAVE EMERGENCY RELIEF (FIRST-AID) TRAINING
WITH TAKERU AS HE IS, WE CAN MAKE HIM OUR OPEN TEST SUBJECT, I GUESS
THAT'S TRUE, HUH
... SAY
EMERGENCY TRAINING, YOU SAY
I MEAN... IT'S ARTIFICIAL RESPIRATION, IS IT !!
EH ? THAT'S RIGHT, BUT
WAIT A MINUTE ! I'M STILL NOT MENTALLY PREPARED ....!
TAKERU ... YOU MEAN I'M NOT GOOD ENOUGH ... ?
DON'T MAKE YOUR EYES TEAR UP WHILE SAYING THINGS LIKE THAT !

OKAY, THIS IS TRAINING ! EVEN CLASS REP TOLD YOU THAT IN THE PREVIOUS WORLD, RIGHT
THIS HAS TO DO WITH THE LIVES OF YOUR COMRADES ...DON'T CONSIDER IT AS STRANGE !
...GO AHEAD DO IT !
WELL THEN, HERE I GO
TO START WITH, YOU SECURE THE RESPIRATORY TRACT ...
SHIT... I TOTALLY RECALL THE GENERAL COMBAT SKILLS EXERCISE FROM BEFORE
WOAH (GASP) SHE'S CLOSE ...!
PEEK!
THIS IS TRAINING ...
TRAINING !!
TRAINING !

SNU
OHHHH...!
A-... AIR IS FREELY ENTERING MY LUNGS...
MUGUH!
GR
AB
TH-... THIS IS QUITE DIFFERENT FROM WHAT I WAS IMAGINING
GA
SHWI
NC
LIKE A FOOL, I WAS STANDING GUARD FOR SOMETHING MORE EROTIC...
SHUFFLE
BOUNCE!
SHIT... I'M ASHAMED TO HAVE WORKED 2 YEARS AS A GUARDSMAN
I'M STILL TOO GREEN, AREN'T I...
HA (GASP)!!

YOU CAN DO IT, CAN'T YOU!
FRANKLY, I THOUGHT THE ONLY ONE WHO CAN DO CLOSE PROXIMITY COMBAT HERE WAS AYAMINE!
2A
2A+1
IF WE ARE TO CROSS SWORD FOR SWORD, WE CAN'T GO ON THIS WAY
ISN'T IT (GASP)!
BECAUSE, TO ME, THIS TECHNIQUE IS NOT LIKE IAI*...
STTT
DSUN

DID THAT TRAINING CHANGE INTO THIS PRELIMINARY TRAINING...?
COME TO THINK OF IT, MEIYA MADE ME FULL WITH BUMPS AND BRUISES FROM HER TRAINING SWORD IN THE PREVIOUS WORLD.

*IAI = THE ART OF DRAWING ONE'S SWORD, CUTTING DOWN ONE'S OPPONENT AND SHEATHING THE SWORD AFTERWARDS IN A SMOOTH MOTION

IS THIS SOMETHING WHERE THE THINGS I'M DOING BEGIN TO HAVE AN EFFECT ON HISTORY, I WONDER...
HAVING MET MIKOTO... DID HISTORY CHANGE FOR THE BETTER ?
BUT STILL ?
SOMEHOW, I CAN'T SAY IF IT'S DEFINITE, YOU KNOW
BECAUSE I'M ONLY GOING OVER SUCH TRIVIAL CHANGES... I WONDER, WILL I REALLY BE ABLE TO CHANGE THE FUTURE ?
...AND SO
EVENTS THAT DIFFER FROM MY MEMORY HAVE BEEN INCREASING, BUT...
... ...
PERHAPS IT'S USELESS AS IT STANDS NOW

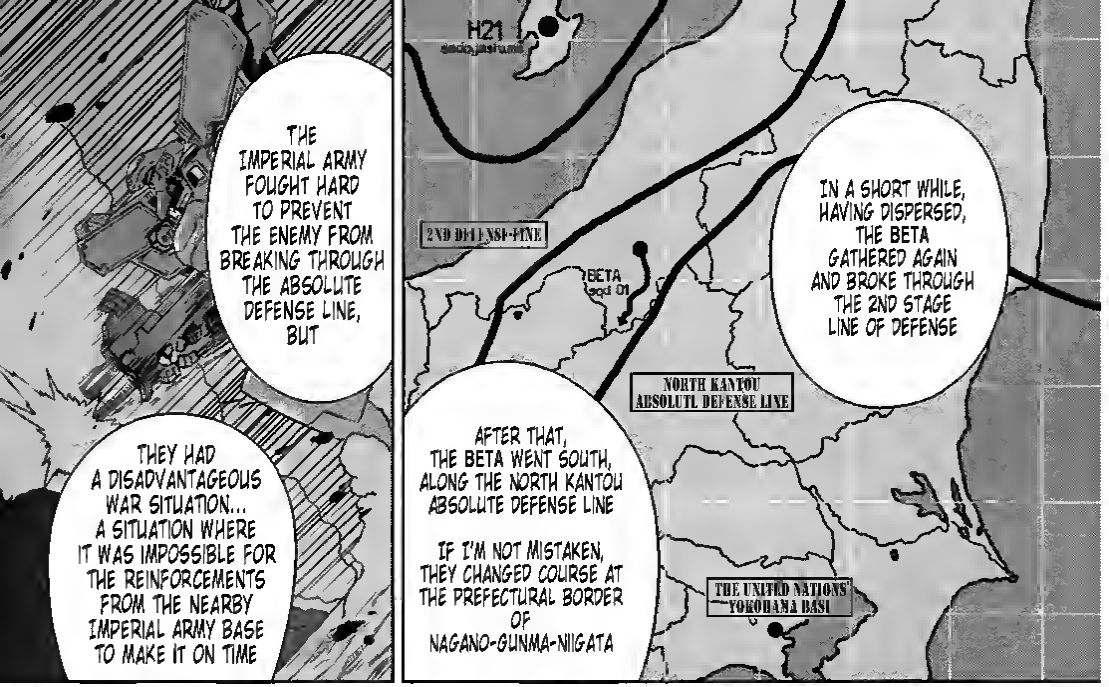
HEAVY !
AS I THOUGHT, IT'S NOT GOOD UNLESS I DO SOMETHING BIGGER, HUH...
FOR INSTANCE ?
FOR INSTANCE, IF I SUDDENLY MOBILIZE A TACTICAL MACHINE, OR SOMETHING ...
WHO THE HELL IS CONTROLLING IT ! (GASP!) !!?
AND WHAT WILL HAPPEN BECAUSE OF THAT ? TO NOT CONSIDER THE CONSEQUENCES IS SIMPLY FOOLISH
UH ...
WAS THERE SOMETHING AN INCIDENT THAT HAD AN EXTRAORDINARY IMPACT ON THE WORLD THAT HASN'T HAPPENED ?
EH ?
FOR INSTANCE, BY ASSUMING THAT SUCH AN EVENT HAPPENED... YOU COME TO PREVENT IT
...YOU WOULDN'T CALL SOMETHING LIKE THAT A TRIVIAL THING, DON'T YOU THINK ?
I SEE ...
... ...

THERE WAS SOMETHING ...
AN EVENT THAT HAS AN IMPACT ON THE WORLD !
THE BETA WILL STAGE AN INVASION ... FROM SADOGASHIMA (SADO ISLAND) !

NN
THIS IS THE TOPS!
A VACATION ON A SOUTHERN ISLE IS, LIKE, NOT BAD ONCE IN A WHILE, ISN'T IT!
episode:05
OH, THAT'S RIGHT
THIS IS A DECREE, OKAY
WELL... DO YOUR BEST NOT TO GET KILLED
IF WE PASS THIS EXAMINATION, WE WILL CLEARLY BE ABLE TO PILOT THE TACTICAL MACHINES
NO MATTER HOW OFTEN I LOOK AT THIS, THIS SEEMS SO OUT OF PLACE...
THE GENERAL WAR SKILLS ASSESSMENT EXERCISE BEGINS!

... BUT YOU KNOW
RUSTLE!
RUSTLE!
RUSTLE!
WELL... EVEN IF YOU TOLD THE VICE-COMMANDER THAT, IT WOULD BE USELESS
... YEAH, NO
AH BE CAREFUL OF TRAPS, OKAY, TAKERU
WHEN A PERSON IS TAKING AN EXAM THAT PUTS HIS LIFE ON THE LINE
SHOWOW
THAT WOMAN (YUZUKO-SENSEI) DOESN'T NEED TO BE TAKING THE OPPORTUNITY TO RELAX, DOESN'T SHE...
YEAH I KNOW
THE SITUATION HAS BEEN CHANGING LITTLE BY LITTLE ...
WE WILL CLEAR THIS EXAM FOR SURE !
THE FUTURE SEEMS TO HAVE BEEN CHANGING, FINALLY

THE BETA WILL STAGE AN INVASION FROM SADOGASHIMA (SADO ISLAND)!
THAT'S ON ... NOVEMBER 11
WE WERE GATHERED IN THE BRIEFING ROOM TO ATTEND AN EMERGENCY SUMMONS
AND ?
... ...
...TELL ME THE DETAILS
RUSTLE
FIRST OFF... THE IMPERIAL ARMY BATTLED THE BETA WHEN THEY HIT THE MAINLAND, BUT
ONCE THE BETA BROKE THROUGH THE FRONT AT THIS SECTION, THE IMPERIAL ARMY LOST
GLIDE!


THE IMPERIAL ARMY FOUGHT HARD TO PREVENT THE ENEMY FROM BREAKING THROUGH THE ABSOLUTE DEFENSE LINE, BUT
THEY HAD A DISADVANTAGEOUS WAR SITUATION... A SITUATION WHERE IT WAS IMPOSSIBLE FOR THE REINFORCEMENTS FROM THE NEARBY IMPERIAL ARMY BASE TO MAKE IT ON TIME
H21
2ND DEFENSE-LINE
BETA
NORTH KANTOU ABSOLUTE DEFENSE LINE
IN A SHORT WHILE, HAVING DISPERSED, THE BETA GATHERED AGAIN AND BROKE THROUGH THE 2ND STAGE LINE OF DEFENSE
AFTER THAT, THE BETA WENT SOUTH, ALONG THE NORTH KANTOU ABSOLUTE DEFENSE LINE
IF I'M NOT MISTAKEN, THEY CHANGED COURSE AT THE PREFECTURAL BORDER OF NAGANO-GUNMA-NIIGATA
THE UNITED NATIONS' YOKOHAMA BASE

...
...
THE UNITED NATIONS SUPPORT FORCES WHO MADE THE SORTIE FROM THE ATSUGI BASE SHOULD HAVE BEEN IN THE MAEBASHI VICINITY, BUT... THESE FORCES WERE TOO LATE
IF THE IMPERIAL ARMY CORPS WAS DEFEATED DURING THE BATTLE, IT MUST HAVE BEEN A SITUATION WHERE THE BETA WERE ALLOWED TO PENETRATE THE ABSOLUTE DEFENSE LINE
BASE
THE BETA'S TARGET DESTINATION TURNED OUT TO BE — AROUND HERE ...

HERE ...
IT'S THE YOKOHAMA BASE
I SEE... AND ?
YOU CERTAINLY WOULDN'T CALL THAT A SMALL EVENT, HUH...
HOW DO YOU WANT TO HANDLE THIS, SPECIFICALLY ?
...THE IMPERIAL ARMY THAT WAS IN THE BATTLE WAS ABLE TO DEFEAT THE BETA AND THEY WON WITHOUT INCIDENT
THE THING THAT IS MOST SOUND... IS TO EXTERMINATE THEM AT THE BEACH, TARGETING THEM AT THE MOMENT THEY LAND
I SEE
I TAKE IT YOU REALIZE AN AMBUSH AT SEA IS UNREALISTIC ?
YES... BECAUSE THE BETA MAKE THEIR MOVEMENTS AT THE BOTTOM OF THE SEA

UH-HM
...
SENSEI!
THERE'S NOTHING MUCH TO THINK ABOUT, RIGHT
WE HAVE NO CHOICE BUT TO ACT, YOU KNOW!
...
...
IT'LL BE NECESSARY TO CENTRALIZE FORCES AT THE LANDING SITE TO CARRY THAT OUT
CAN'T YOU BE A LITTLE MORE SPECIFIC ABOUT LANDING SITE?
I'M CERTAIN THAT IT'S NIIGATA, BUT ANY MORE THAN THAT... I'M SORRY
SHIROGANE ... CONFIRM FOR ME ONE THING
WHAT IS IT?
YES, MA'AM!
...IF WE CAN DO A GOOD JOB OF EXTERMINATING THE BETA, THE INFLUENCE ON HISTORY WILL CERTAINLY BE BIG, I GUESS, HUH

IS THERE EVIDENCE TO SUGGEST THAT YOUR STORY JUST NOW...
IS TRUE ?
EH ...!?
WHEN A STORY BECOMES GRAND TO THIS EXTENT, WE CANNOT MOVE WITHOUT PROPER EVIDENCE
ASIDE FROM ME, IT'S ABSOLUTELY IMPOSSIBLE TO PERSUADE THOSE ARMY GUYS WITH THAT MATERIAL ALONE
WHA-... WHAT IS SHE SAYING ...!?
THIS CAN'T BE ...!
I DON'T EVEN HAVE ANYTHING TO SHOW THAT CAN PROVE MY STORY UP TO NOW, YOU KNOW !
... ...
...THERE IS ONE WAY TO DEFINITELY PROVE IT
! WHAT IS IT !?

!?
THERE IS TRUTH TO YOUR STORY IF THE BETA INVASION ACTUALLY HAPPENS AS YOU SAY
THAT WOULD BE THE QUICKEST, EASIEST WAY TO PROVE IT, RIGHT ?
LET IT GO FOR NOW
THAT'S RIGHT
YOU'RE TELLING ME TO PROVE MY ASSERTION IN EXCHANGE FOR THAT !
RIDICULOUS ! A GREAT NUMBER OF HUMAN BEINGS WILL DIE IF WE LET IT GO, YOU KNOW !
IN REALITY, YOU HAVEN'T FORETOLD THE FUTURE, YET
UNLESS IT HAPPENS, YOUR WORDS CAN NEVER BE REGARDED AS ANYTHING MORE THAN AN ABSURDITY
YOU... DO YOU REALLY UNDERSTAND THE SITUATION ?

...YOU CAN'T POSSIBLY THINK
THAT YOU CAN WIN SOMETHING WITHOUT ANY SACRIFICE, RIGHT ?
THAT'S THE REASON ALTERNATIVE ...
IT'S A PLAN THAT'S ALREADY SET IN MOTION
IN SOME WAYS, I CANNOT DISCARD THE POSSIBILITY OF KNOWING
...IT'S NOTHING LIKE THAT, YOU KNOW
... ...
KUH ... HU HU
CHUCKLE
WHAT'S SO FUNNY !?
PLOP
I CAN'T DO SOMETHING LIKE ABANDONING THE LIVES I SHOULD SAVE, YOU KNOW !!
NEVER-THE-LESS !
HOW COMICAL
IS IT BECAUSE THE MAN WHO RESCUES 1 BILLION HUMAN BEINGS HEREAFTER DISLIKES THE SACRIFICE OF SCORES OF HUNDREDS ?

THE LIVES YOU SHOULD SAVE ... HUH
WHILE YOU'RE WEARING YOURSELF OUT DOING THAT OVER THERE
CAN YOU IMAGINE... HOW MANY SOLDIERS WILL BE DYING IN BATTLEFIELDS AROUND THE WORLD ?
IF YOU WANT TO SAVE THE WORLD... YOU SHOULD PROVE THAT YOU'RE RIGHT AS SOON AS POSSIBLE
THIS IS A NECESSARY THING (SACRIFICE) FOR THAT SAKE... TELL ME, DO YOU HAVE SOMETHING AGAINST THAT ?
SHI- ...
!!
I UNDERSTAND... THESE THINGS, I UNDERSTAND ! UNLESS I DO SO, I'LL NEVER BE TRUSTED NO MATTER WHAT
UNLESS I'M TRUSTED, I WON'T BE ABLE TO MAKE ALTERNATIVE 4 SUCCEED !

HOWEVER... HOWEVER !
BECAUSE ! I CAN'T OVERLOOK THE SITUATION KNOWING THAT A GREAT NUMBER OF PEOPLE WILL DIE
I CAN'T DO THAT !!
BUT, IT'S NO USE ... I CAN'T MAKE THAT SORT OF JUDGEMENT ! I DON'T CARE WHETHER OR NOT YOU TELL ME I'M IMMATURE...
...YOU'RE TELLING ME TO TAKE THOROUGH MEASURES, ARE YOU ?
YES, PLEASE !
AND TO BELIEVE YOUR WORDS WITHOUT BASIS ?
... ...

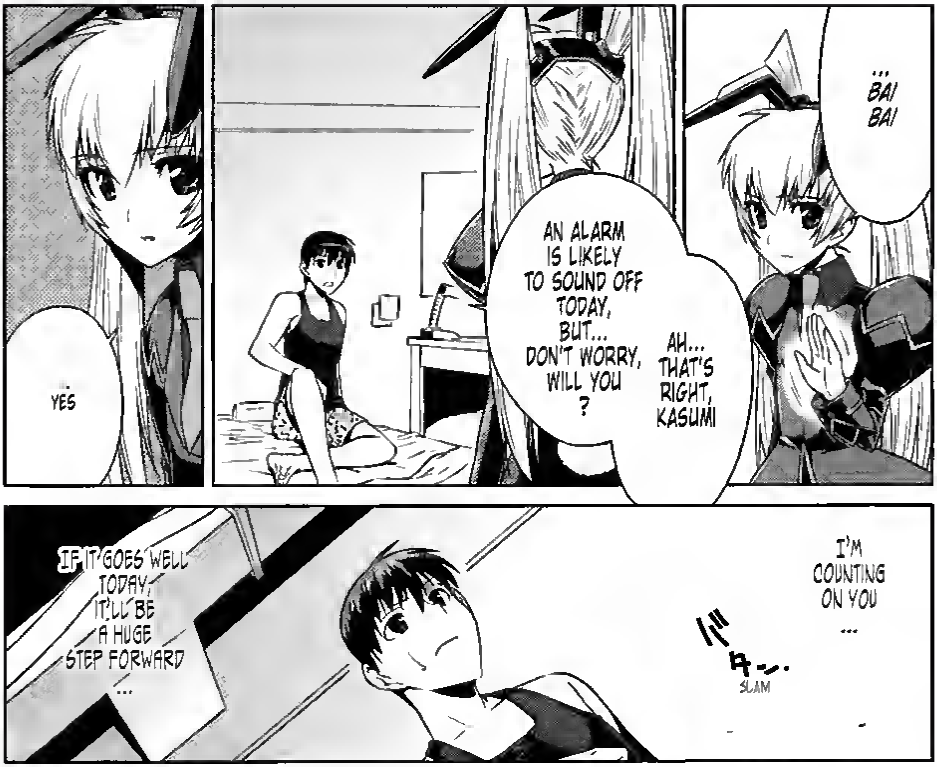
I'M BEGGING YOU (GASP) !!
...
...
...
...UNDERSTOOD
LET'S DO AS YOU SAY
EH ?
RESOLUTELY!

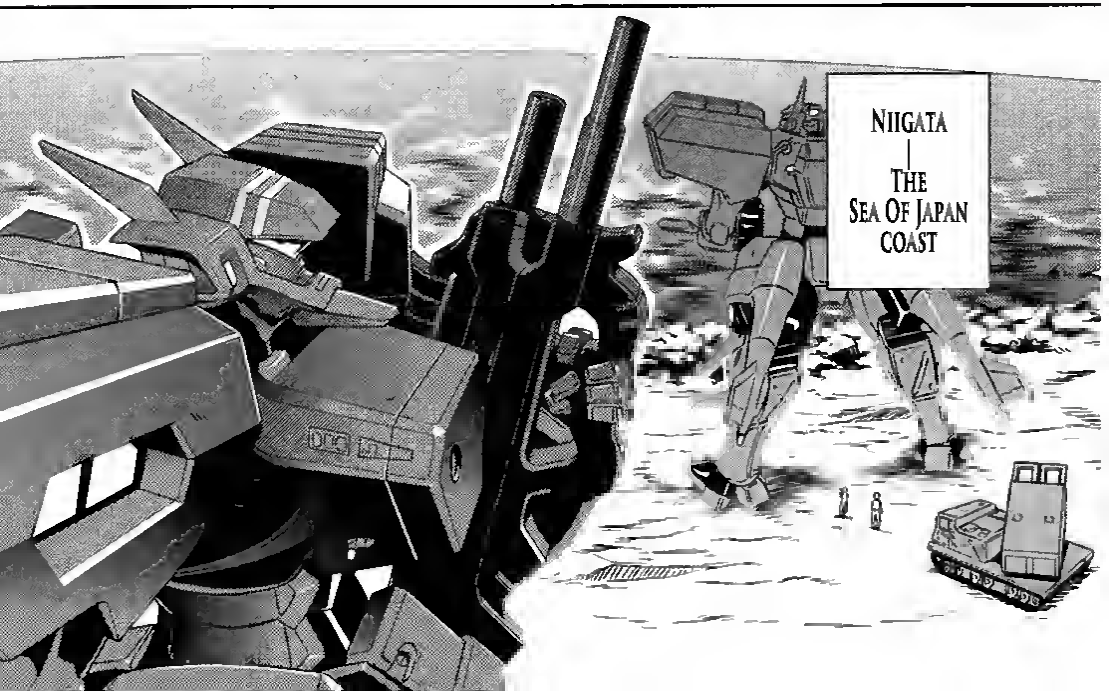
L-... LIKE, NOW !?
I SAID THAT I BELIEVE IN WHAT YOU ARE SAYING, YOU KNOW
YOU'RE NOT LOGICAL, BUT YOU DO SHOW A GENUINE CONVICTION... THAT'S GOOD, ISN'T IT ?
B-...BUT, THAT'S SOMETHING OPPOSITE TO...
...I DON'T KNOW WHETHER YOU'RE SMART OR STUPID...
IF THE BETA ATTEMPT A LANDING AROUND THE 11TH, WHAT YOU SAY BECOMES TRUE AT THAT POINT IN TIME, DOESN'T IT
EH... BUT, EARLIER...
THE BETA ARE NOT INFLUENCED BY HUMAN CIRCUMSTANCES ...
AND NO ONE CAN PREDICT THEIR ACTIONS, EITHER, YOU KNOW
...AH!
IN OTHER WORDS, THE MOMENT THE BETA MOVES, THEN WHAT YOU'RE TELLING ME IS THE TRUTH — THAT IS, I EXPECT IT TO BE

SE-
SENSEI,
YOU'RE MEAN
!
WERE YOU
TESTING ME
!?
LOOK, YOU...
IT'S NOT GOOD
IF YOU DON'T
ALLOW
YOUR IMAGINATION
TO WORK
A LITTLE MORE,
YOU KNOW
FOR
ARGUMENT'S
SAKE,
IF,
BY SOME CHANCE,
THE TIME AND
THE PLACE
SHIFTS,
THEN
WHAT DO
WE DO
?
WE DON'T KNOW
THE EXTENT OF
WHAT
THE U.N. FORCES
AND
THE IMPERIAL ARMY
WILL SAY
I SEE...
IF THERE'S
AN
ADVERSE EFFECT
ON
ALTERNATIVE 4
BECAUSE OF THAT,
THAT MEANS...

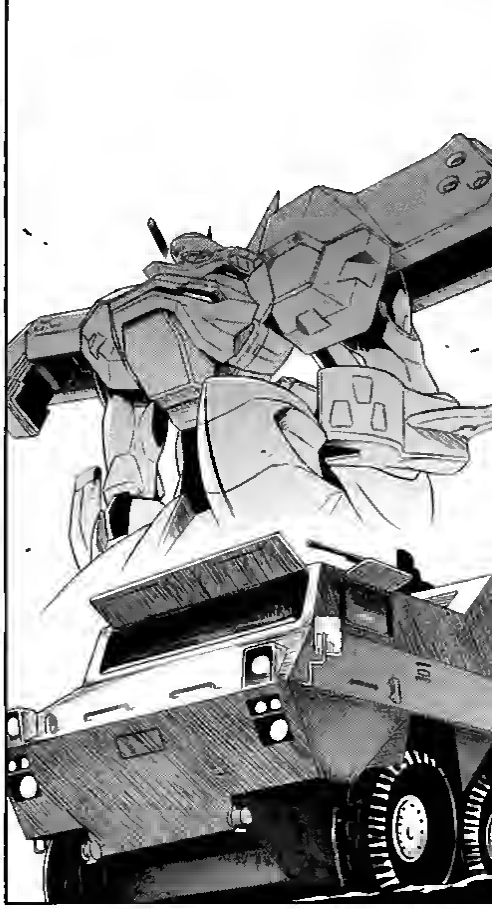
AT WORST,
THE POSSIBLE
FORFEITURE
OF
THE PLAN,
TOO...
HUH
NOW
THEN...
I SUPPOSE
I'LL SEND OUT
A DEFCON2
(DEFENSE STANDARD CONDITION 2)
TO THE IMPERIAL ARMY
AT THE
CHUETSU AND KAETSU
(CENTRAL AND NORTHERN)
NIIGATA REGIONS
ON THE 10TH
AND
A SUPPORT
UNIT
FROM
THE YOKOHAMA
BASE,
SOMEHOW...
THAT'S USELESS
UNLESS
REQUESTED BY
THE U.N. FORCES
AND
THE JAPANESE
GOVERNMENT,
THEY CAN'T
MOBILIZE

THAT'S THE MILITARY FOR YOU... THEY'RE SLOW TO ACT, BUT ONCE THEY START TO MOVE, THEY CAN'T STOP
BE PREPARED
... YES, MA'AM
LATER - NOVEMBER 11
N...
AH...YEAH KASUMI, IS IT GOOD MORNING
RUSTLE
...GOOD MORNING
COME TO THINK OF IT, SHE'D COME IN TO WAKE ME UP THIS WAY IN THE PREVIOUS WORLD, TOO, I BELIEVE ...


...
BAI
BAI
AH... THAT'S RIGHT, KASUMI
AN ALARM IS LIKELY TO SOUND OFF TODAY, BUT... DON'T WORRY, WILL YOU ?
YES
I'M COUNTING ON YOU ...
SLAM
IF IT GOES WELL TODAY, IT'LL BE A HUGE STEP FORWARD ...


NIIGATA
THE SEA OF JAPAN COAST

CAPTAIN
...
"THEY" REALLY WILL COME RIGHT
WHO KNOWS
HOWEVER, IT IS THE VICE-COMMANDER'S WORD
WE JUST HAVE TO PUT OUR TRUST IN HER



BOOM
!
YEAH, THAT'S RIGHT
WE JUST HANDLE THE MISSION WE WERE GIVEN, AND
UH-OH

!!
BOOM
ZOO
TATAT
DADAW
DOM

SOMEHOW, IT APPEARS WE'RE NOT GOING HOME EMPTY-HANDED
ALL UNITS, CHARGE !
VHOO
ROGER !!
OOM!
DA
DA
DA
DA
BEEP
BEEP
BEEP
BEEP

ALL RIGHT
I'LL EXPLAIN THE SITUATION
AT 0620 HOURS, (8:20 AM JAPAN TIME) A BRIGADE-SIZED GROUP OF BETA APPEARING FROM SADOGASHIMA HEADS SOUTHBOUND BENEATH THE SEA
SQUAD 207B, PRESENT AND ACCOUNTED FOR!
H21 SADOGASHIMA HIVE
IMPERIAL NAVY SEA OF JAPAN FLEET
IMPERIAL HOMELAND DEFENSE ARMY 12TH DIVISION
AT 0648, (6:48 AM) THE IMPERIAL ARMY'S 12TH DIVISION, WHO WERE DEPLOYED ALONG THE OLD NATIONAL HIGHWAY, MAKES ENEMY CONTACT
AND, AS OF 0710, (7:10 AM) THEY ARE IN BATTLE AT THE CHUETSU AND KAETSU NIIGATA REGIONS
THEY CAME!
AT 0627, (6:27 AM) AFTER BREAKING THROUGH THE COASTAL DEFENSE LINE AND THE IMPERIAL NAVY'S SEA OF JAPAN FLEET, THE ENEMY LANDS IN NIIGATA
...
THE LAST TIME, THEY BROKE THROUGH HERE AND INVADED THE INLAND AREAS...

ざわっ
MURMUR
EH ...!?
AS A RESULT OF HAVING ANALYZED THE BETA'S COURSE UPON LANDING
WE HAVE ESTABLISHED THAT THEIR FINAL TARGET WAS MOST LIKELY THE YOKOHAMA BASE
...THE IMPERIAL ARMY'S 14TH DIVISION HAS JOINED THE BATTLE, AND WE HAVE PREDOMINANCE OF THE WAR SITUATION
IT APPEARS THE BETA'S ANNIHILATION IS ONLY A MATTER OF TIME... HOWEVER
THEREFORE, UNTIL THE BETA'S ANNIHILATION IS CONFIRMED, THIS BASE WILL PRESENTLY SHIFT INTO DEFCON2
(DEFENSE STANDARD CONDITION 2)
YOU CADETS WILL REMAIN INDOORS ON STANDBY
THAT IS ALL
...THE MAINLAND HAS BECOME A BATTLEFIELD, HASN'T IT...
YEAH ...
TAP
TAPP
TAP
TAP

...WILL THE PEOPLE LIVING THERE
BE... SAFE
SHE SAID WE HAVE PREDOMINANCE OF THE WAR SITUATION, DIDN'T SHE...
ALL WE CAN DO NOW IS BELIEVE IN THE IMPERIAL ARMY
FOR MEIYA, THIS CUTS INTO HER CORE ... I BELIEVE
... THAT'S TRUE, ISN'T IT
ATTENTION, ALL PERSONNEL
DEFCON2 HAS BEEN CANCELLED
"!
I REPEAT DEFCON2 HAS BEEN
"...SENSEI (GASP)!!

THANK YOU ... FOR ALL THAT YOU'VE DONE
THERE'S NOTHING TO THANK ME FOR... IT'S SOMETHING I DID OUT OF SPECIAL INTEREST
AH ...
DON'T MAKE A FUSS I CAN HEAR
...FOR YOU, PERHAPS IT'S JOYOUS, BUT...
... ...
IT'S AN AWFULLY BIG INFLUENCE ON ALTERNATIVE 4 ...
BUT... HISTORY WILL CHANGE IN A BIG WAY, YOU KNOW !
... ...
I'M BUSY, SO... LEAVE
... ?
BY SOME CHANCE, DID SOMETHING GO WRONG ?

...
...
Report of the A-01 EAT in
TAKERU ! THERE'S A CAVE OVER HERE !
YO I'M COMING, NOW
SENSEI IS THE ONLY ONE WHO CAN MAKE ALTERNATIVE 4 SUCCEED
I MUST DO MY BEST...
I'LL BECOME A GUARDSMAN AS SOON AS POSSIBLE AND HELP SENSEI ...!
COMING OUT HERE TO HER MEANT TAKING A BREATHER I GUESS
SENSEI STILL HAS A LOT OF PROBLEMS, TOO, DOESN'T SHE...

episode:06
BOOM
KRACKLE
KRACK
KRACK
KRACKLE
KRACK
KRACK
I GUESS THE DELAYED EXPLOSIVES WE IMPROVISED WORKED WELL, DIDN'T IT
JUST AS EXPECTED ...
YOU THINK SO ? STILL, BECAUSE OF THIS, IT'LL BE A GOOD DIVERSION FOR THE OTHER SQUAD, HUH
I THINK EVERYONE IS BLOWING UP THE OTHER STRATEGIC POINTS AT THIS TIME, TOO, Y'KNOW
THAT'S TRUE, ISN'T IT... ALL RIGHT
LET'S HURRY TO THE RENDEZVOUS POINT
THE LAST TIME I WAS WORN OUT BECAUSE I WAS BITTEN BY A SNAKE, AND WE JUST BARELY MADE IT IN TIME

GRAB
DINNER SECURED
(GASP) !!
EEH
(GASP) !?
SHAA!
I-... IT'S NOT GOOD, Y'KNOW, TO, LIKE, EAT THAT SNAKE !
WHAT ARE YOU SAYING IT'S A VALUABLE SOURCE OF PROTEIN, RIGHT ?
AND WE DON'T EVEN HAVE ANY MORE RATIONS
THE LAST TIME WAS TERRIBLE THANKS TO THIS FELLA ...
THAT'S NOT GOING TO HAPPEN THIS TIME

UH ...
I... I'M FINE WITH MUSHROOMS OR LEAVES !
NOW, EVEN IF IT'S 1 MINUTE OR 1 SECOND, TIME IS PRECIOUS ...
IDIOT THIS SNAKE ISN'T AN ENDANGERED SPECIES, IS IT
LISTEN JUST BE THANKFUL AND EAT
I-... I'M FINE, I TELL YOU !
BECAUSE OF MY PRESENT PHYSICAL ABILITY, WE SHOULD BE ABLE TO SHORTEN THE TIME TO PASS EVEN MORE !

OH... YOU CAME, DID YOU
YOU'VE GOTTEN HERE ALREADY HAVE YOU... AS EXPECTED ISN'T IT, OF YOU TWO
HM ...
REALLY... WHEN DID YOU TWO GET HERE ?
WE GOT HERE LAST NIGHT
!?
...WHAT DID YOU DO ?
WHY DO YOU HAVE THAT LOOK OF DOUBT ?
...IS THAT TRUE ...?
OH ? CAN IT BE THAT WE'RE ALL ASSEMBLED ?

I'M RE-CONFIRMING THIS, BUT
FOR THIS EXAM, THE ASSUMPTION IS THAT... WE ESCAPE FROM AN ENEMY TERRITORY GIVEN A SITUATION WHERE NEITHER A FIGHTER (AIRCRAFT) NOR A REINFORCED EXOSKELETON CAN BE UTILIZED
WE HAVE ALREADY ACHIEVED OUR 2ND PRIORITY OBJECTIVE ... A REAR DISTURBANCE BY POSITIONING EXPLOSIONS AT THREE POINTS
WHOOP!
WITH ALL MEMBERS PRESENT AND ACCOUNTED FOR, LET'S GET A GRASP OF OUR CURRENT SITUATION
TO THAT EXTENT, I DON'T KNOW, BUT... EITHER WAY, WE'LL PROCEED WITHOUT DROPPING OUR PACE
CONSIDERING THAT WE HAVE TIME TO SPARE, WILL WE BE OKAY ...?
IT'S AT THE TIP OF THE ISLAND, ISN'T IT ...
THE EXAMINATION IS COMPLETED IF WE REACH THIS ESCAPE POINT AFTERWARD
AND WE ONLY HAVE THIS SHEET
WE HAVE A REPELLING ROPE
THERE'S ONLY ONE BULLET, THOUGH
FOR THE THINGS WE WERE ABLE TO SECURE EARLIER... THERE'S ONE ANTI-MATERIAL RIFLE

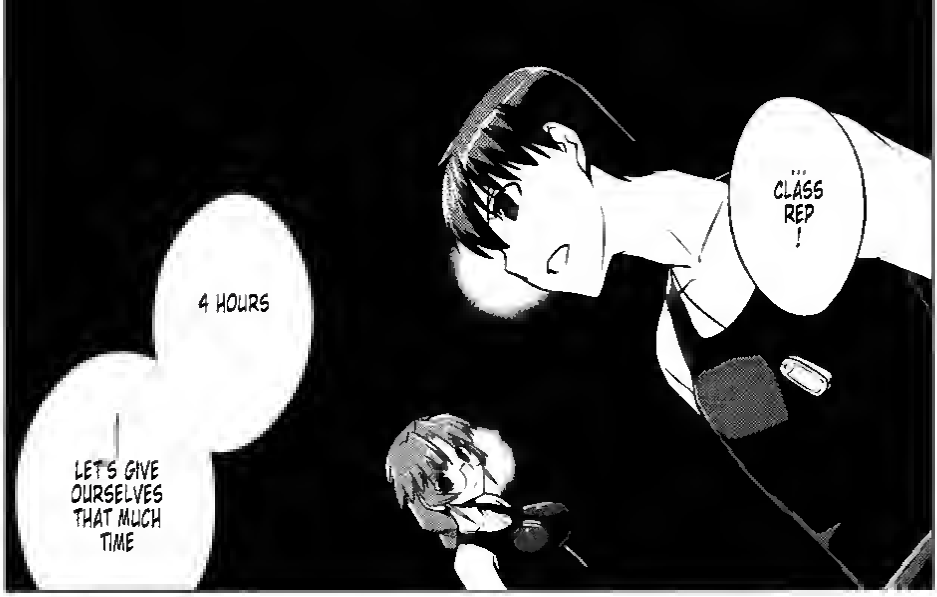
POOR TEAMWORK IS DIRECTLY CONNECTED TO STRATEGIC FAILURE... DON'T FORGET THAT
SMACK!
FROM HERE, WE'LL BE MOBILIZING AS A SQUAD
IF WE COMPLETE THIS EXAM, WE SHIFT TO THE TACTICAL MACHINE TRAINING CURRICULUM
THIS IS PERHAPS OUR LAST OPPORTUNITY WHERE WE MOBILIZE AS FOOT SOLDIERS LIKE THIS
...SQUAD, MOVE OUT!
OKAY! THERE DOESN'T SEEM TO BE ANY TRAPS
THE TACTICAL SURFACE FIGHTER
(THE TACTICAL BIPEDAL MOBILITY COMBAT MACHINE)
NICKNAME, THE SENJUTSUKI
(THE TACTICAL MACHINE / TSF)
IT'S THE GENERIC TERM FOR THE HUMAN-PATTERNED, BIPEDALLY MOBILE ORDNANCE OF "THIS WORLD"
IT'S THE CORNERSTONE OF MANKIND'S DEFENSE STRATEGY AGAINST THE BETA

IN ADDITION, THE ENEMY BASE — IT HAS A COMPLICATED RHIZOMATOUS STRUCTURE; AND TO SUPPORT A SITUATIONS CALLED "HIVE BLITZES"
F-4J GEKISHIN (THUNDER STRIKE)
TACTICAL MACHINES, EQUIPPED WITH THE ABILITY FOR ALL-WEATHER, ALL-TERRAIN SUPREMACY, WERE DEVELOPED AS MANKIND'S MAIN FORCE
TYPE 94 SHIRANUI (SEA FIRE)
F-15 KAGEROU (HEAT WAVE)
SINCE THE OUTBREAK OF THE GREAT WAR, ATTACKED BY THE BETA'S PHYSICAL SUPERIORITY, MANKIND WAS FORCED TO SWITCH TO A BASIC STRATEGY AGAINST THE BETA
THE PILOTS OF THE TACTICAL MACHINES — THEY ARE CALLED "BISHIS" (GUARDSMEN)
TACTICAL MACHINES, ALONG WITH TENS OF THOUSANDS OF ENEMIES, (BETAS) ALL PROCEEDING TO THE AWAITING BATTLEFRONT
IF THAT'S THE CASE, I CAN EASILY MAKE BETTER USE OF MY SITUATION AND SKILLS... AND I'LL REACH A POINT TO WHERE I CAN CONTRIBUTE TO ALTERNATIVE 4 MORE DIRECTLY THAN NOW!
THE THING ABOUT PILOTING A SENJUTSUKI (A TACTICAL MACHINE) ...THERE IS A POINT WHERE AN BISHI WILL BE IN CLOSE COMBAT WITH THE BETA

RUMMBLE
PLOP!
I THINK IT MAY EVEN BE A SQUALL, AND... IT DOESN'T LOOK LIKE IT WILL STOP ANY TIME SOON, DOESN'T IT
...IT'S GOOD THAT WE WERE ABLE TO CROSS THE RIVER BEFORE THE RAIN FALL, BUT
IT'LL BE IMPOSSIBLE FOR KEI-SAN TO RETRIEVE THE ROPE BECAUSE OF THIS, HUH...
THIS MAKES THINGS DIFFICULT, DOESN'T IT...
THE PREVIOUS TIME AND OUR MARCHING SPEED WAS TOTALLY DIFFERENT, AND AS A RESULT, IT'S DIFFICULT FOR ME TO GRASP THE WHERE AND WHEN
IF I'M NOT MISTAKEN, THIS IS THE RAIN FROM WHEN I COLLAPSED FROM BEING BITTEN BY A SNAKE...
WHAT DO WE DO ? DO WE TRY WAITING FOR IT TO STOP ?
THE ROPE IS AT A SPOT WHERE WE WOULD LIKE TO RETRIEVE IT, BUT... IN THIS SITUATION, IT'LL BE A WASTE OF TIME

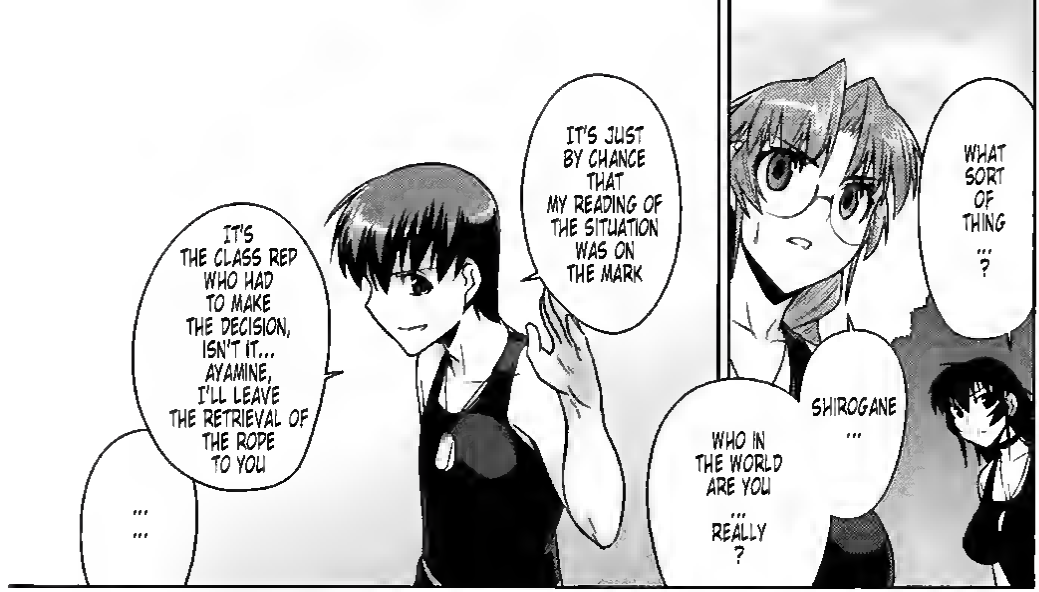
TAMASE
WHAT IS IT ?
...
...
THAT'S TRUE, BUT... IF THE TERRAIN IS GOING TO BE LIKE THIS FROM HERE ON, THE ROPE IS NECESSARY
IT'S ILL-ADVISED TO USE IT HERE, SINCE WE CAN'T REPLACE IT WITH SOMETHING ELSE
WAIT, SAKAKI
THE RIFLE ONLY HAS ONE ROUND
I WANT YOU TO SHOOT THE KNOT OF THE ROPE WITH THE RIFLE
EH ?
IF YOU DO SO, IT'S POSSIBLE TO RETRIEVE THE ROPE
...
!
!!!
!!!
I WANT TO AVOID WASTING TIME ARGUING IN SUCH A PLACE AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE ...
THIS IS BAD... THIS IS TURNING OUT TO BE THE SAME DEVELOPMENT AS BEFORE

...
...
...LET'S WAIT FOR THE WATER OF THE RIVER TO RECEDE
AND YOU, SHIROGANE ? DO YOU HAVE ANY OPINIONS ?
YEAH ... I WAS THINKING
...TAKERU, ARE YOU SERIOUS !?
EEH (GASP) !?
BUT I'M THE ONLY ONE WHO KNOWS THE FUTURE ...THAT THIS RAIN WILL STOP IN ANOTHER 3-4 HOURS
SINCE WE WANT TO AVOID A DILEMMA BY ABANDONING THE ROPE HERE
IT'S BEST THAT WE RESERVE AS MUCH CHOICES AS POSSIBLE. ISN'T IT
A NATURAL RESPONSE, ISN'T IT ...
WE DON'T EVEN KNOW WHETHER THIS RAIN WILL STOP, YOU KNOW !?
...IF YOU WANT TO TAKE A BREAK, YOU'RE DOING IT ALONE


...
CLASS REP!
4 HOURS
LET'S GIVE OURSELVES THAT MUCH TIME

TAKERU-SAN, YOU'RE AMAZING!
ANOTHER TO RETRIEVE THE ROPE, THAT SUMS UP TO 4 HOURS TOTAL, DOES IT
IF THIS TREND KEEPS UP, 1 HOUR UNTIL THE FLOOD WATER SETTLES...

2 HOURS...
IT REALLY STOPPED, Y'KNOW!


WHAT SORT OF THING ...?
IT'S JUST BY CHANCE THAT MY READING OF THE SITUATION WAS ON THE MARK
SHIROGANE ...
WHO IN THE WORLD ARE YOU ... REALLY ?
IT'S THE CLASS REP WHO HAD TO MAKE THE DECISION, ISN'T IT... AYAMINE, I'LL LEAVE THE RETRIEVAL OF THE ROPE TO YOU
... ...

I WONDER, IS OUR RECOVERY POINT HERE ...?
IF WE KEEP THIS UP, WE'LL BE CLEAR BY THE 4TH DAY, I GUESS ...
THAT'S AWESOME, I TELL YA !
RUSTLE!
WHAT'S WRONG TAKERU ? YOU'RE COMPLEXION IS PALE
NO... IT'S NOTHING
THE PREVIOUS TIME, AFTER BEING GLAD TO REACH THE RECOVERY POINT... WE WERE BOMBARDED...
IT'S YUUKO SENSEI'S DOING
SEEMS LIKE SHE HAD NO INTENTION OF LETTING US ESCAPE AT THIS POINT, AND...

IT CAN'T BE HELPED... WE HAVE NO CHOICE BUT TO BE BOMBARDED THIS TIME, TOO...
HA
!
...
HU HO HO
...IF I COULD SILENCE THE BATTERY (HEAVY ARTILLERY) BADLY, HOW AM I CHANGING THE DEVELOPING SITUATION AFTER THIS
THAT'S SOMETHING THAT'S NOT CLEAR TO ME
HO HO HO
I FOUND FLARES !
BOF!
I'VE WANTED TO TRY DOING THAT ONCE, Y'KNOW MAY I ?
SINCE I'M CAPABLE OF ACTING AS A PIECE OF MEAT, IF I COULD LIGHT IT WITHOUT THEM KNOWING...
?
AH AYAMINE, WAIT PLEASE LET ME DO THAT
SHIT EVEN THOUGH I REALIZE THAT WE'LL BE ATTACKED, I'M NERVOUS...
THE BOMBARDMENT CAME FROM THAT SIDE, DIDN'T IT

THE HELICOPTER CAME!
THIS MEANS WE PA-
BA
!!?
A BOMBARD-MENT!? FROM WHERE...
WHA-...WHAT!?

GA
THERE'S A BATTERY (HEAVY ARTILLERY) IN A PLACE LIKE THIS ...!?
WE'RE BEING ATTACKED HERE !!
THE BOM-BA'STARD HAS COME !!

TAKERU !!
IT'S AIMING FOR YOU
GA
GA
GA
GA
GA
GA
GA

TAKERU, DUCK FOR COVER ! IT'S AIMING FOR YOU !!
I KNOW !!
EVEN THOUGH THINGS SEEM TO BE QUITE BETTER THAN BEFORE...! I GATHER I'VE HIT A BULLS-EYE !!
episode:07

SHI-
(GASP)
...
UOOO

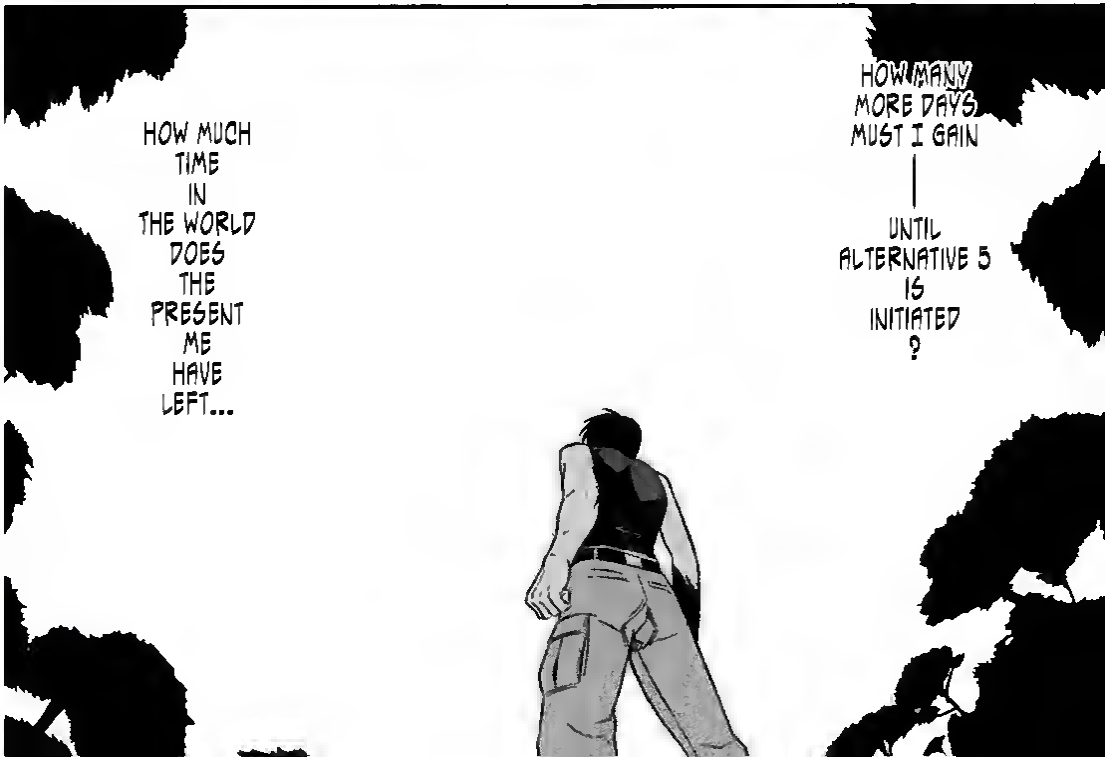
BAM!
TAKERU, OVER HERE! HURRY!!
THUD
CRACKLE
CRACKLE
CRACKLE
CRACKLE
UH...
I... I THOUGHT I WAS GONNA DIE...!
CUSHIONY
IT'S BETTER THAN BEFORE, BUT IT'S BAD FOR MY HEART...!
HM?

...ECCHI
HU
THIS ...
THIS HERO IS BAD FOR THE HEART FOR OTHER REASONS...!

THE LOCATION IS ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THE BATTERY THAT JUST SHOT AT YOU
WE HAVE A NEWLY SET RECOVERY POINT, SO PLEASE GO THERE
THERE IS THE POSSIBILITY THAT WE'LL BE SHELLED AGAIN BY GOING THERE, BUT...
THE ONLY THING I CAN DO IS INFORM YOU OF THE NEW RECOVERY POINT
THAT IS ALL OVER AND OUT
...
...
AH! IS EVERYONE ALIVE? SO THE PLANS WENT A LITTLE AWRY
UNFORTUNATELY, THE BATTERY (HEAVY ARTILLERY) WAS OPERATIONAL FOR SOME REASON

RUSTLE
RUSTLE
RUSTLE
WE HAVE TO MANAGE THE REST OURSELVES SOMEHOW... I GUESS
INDEED, IT'S JUST LIKE THE VICE-COMMANDER
IT'S NO USE COMPLAINING HERE
WE HAVE NO CHOICE BUT TO SILENCE THE BATTERY, TOO... SO, LET'S MOVE OUT
TAKERU
AH...YEAH MEIYA WHAT'S UP ?
UP TO THIS POINT, WE GAINED AS MUCH AS ONE DAY, AT MOST ...SHIT! IT'S THAT, TIME; EVEN A LITTLE OF IT, IS PRECIOUS, NOW, AND YET...!!
I CANNOT SHORTEN TIME ANY MORE THAN EXPECTED ...
... THIS IS UNPLEASANT, ISN'T IT
EH... I-IS THAT SO ?
! SOMETIMES WHEN YOU DO THAT, YOU WEAR AN EXPRESSION LIKE YOU'RE THINKING HARD ABOUT SOMETHING
I UNDERSTAND THE FEELING THAT YOU WANT TO HURRY, BUT DON'T BE IMPATIENT
PRESENTLY, WE'VE GAINED A CONSIDERABLE AMOUNT OF TIME ... THERE'S STILL ROOM
... ...
SINCE IT SEEMS YOU WERE LOST IN THOUGHT ...
WE DON'T KNOW WHAT WILL HAPPEN, YET
DON'T LET YOUR GUARD DOWN
AAH ... MY BAD

BUT, TO ME, THIS EXAM IS A NATURAL TO PASS... IT'S ONLY A CHECKPOINT
IF I JUDGE IT JUST BY THE EXAM, IT CERTAINLY IS SO
THERE'S STILL ROOM ... IS THERE


HOW MUCH TIME IN THE WORLD DOES THE PRESENT ME HAVE LEFT...
HOW MANY MORE DAYS MUST I GAIN — UNTIL ALTERNATIVE 5 IS INITIATED ?

TAKERU-SAN!
AH... YEAH WHAT'S UP, TAMA?
YOU'RE BROODING OVER STUFF AGAIN, YOU KNOW?
DON'T EVEN WORRY ABOUT IT... IF THINGS CONTINUE AS IS, WE'LL DEFINITELY PASS!
... ...
THAT'S TRUE, ISN'T IT... ARIGATOU (THANK YOU)
WHICH REMINDS ME, THE SENSOR FOR THE BATTERY WILL BE IN SIGHT ANY TIME SOON...
ALL RIGHT! CADET TAMASE, WE STILL CAN'T BE TOO CARELESS
YOU KEEP A LOOKOUT TOWARDS THE COAST! I'LL HANDLE THE OPPOSITE SIDE
WHIP
ROGER THAT!
I'M COUNTING ON YOU... PLEASE FIND THAT NICE SENSOR...
!
IS THAT...
WHAT'S WRONG, TAMASE?

JUST AS I THOUGHT... THERE'S A RADOME POSITIONED ON THE SIDE OF THE CLIFF
A SECTION IS BROKEN OFF, AND BECAUSE OF THE GAP, I CAN SEE SOME MECHANISMS MOVING
...FROM ITS POSITION IT'S MOST LIKELY THE SENSOR OF THE BATTERY
IF WE CAN DESTROY THAT, THEN WE CAN MOST LIKELY NEUTRALIZE THE BATTERY... WE HAVE AN OPPORTUNITY TO USE THE ANTI-MATERIAL RIFLE HERE
TAMASE
PREPARE TO SNIPE!
BUT... IT'S QUITE A DISTANCE FROM HERE, Y'KNOW? IS THAT OKAY?
...
...
YEAH THERE'S NO WIND, NOW, SO I CAN MANAGE SOMEHOW!
CLENCH!
THERE MUST STILL BE A CONSIDERABLE AMOUNT OF PRESSURE IN A SITUATION LIKE THIS WHERE FAILURE IS NOT AN OPTION... EARLIER, SHE LOOKED VERY PROMISING FROM THIS SMALL BACK OF HERS, HOWEVER...
THIS TAMA NOW HAS YET TO COMPLETELY OVERCOME HER PERFORMANCE ANXIETY, HASN'T SHE...
RAT-TAT-TAT
...?

I SEE ...
IT SEEMS THAT DIDN'T MEAN SHE HAS SELF-CONFIDENCE ...
PAT!
ぽんっ
!?
TAKERU-SAN ...?
YOU'LL BE FINE IF IT'S YOU, TAMA, YOU CAN DO IT
YOU SHOWED ME THAT DURING TRAINING, RIGHT?
...!
YES!!
ZAN.
(DRAMATIC EFFECT)

WHAP
ALL RIGHT !!!
TARGET DESTROYED !
...
...
WITH THIS, WE HAVE A BETTER CHANCE TO PROCEED WITHOUT WORRYING ABOUT THE BATTERY
THERE'S STILL A SHORT DISTANCE MORE TO THE RECOVERY POINT ...
EVERYONE MOVE OUT, PRONTO !!
ROGER !!

YOU HAVE NOW COMPLETED THE COMPREHENSIVE COMBAT SKILLS ASSESSMENT EXERCISE ! GOOD WORK
SITUATION, TERMINATED ! SQUAD 207B, ASSEMBLE !

NORMALLY, IF YOU THINK ABOUT IT, TO CLEAR THIS IN A SHORT TIME MUST BE QUITE A REMARKABLE FEAT
NOW THEN... HOW DID SHE EVALUATE OUR ACTIONS ...
I WILL TELL YOU THE RESULTS OF YOUR ASSESSMENT AT ONCE
FOR THE DESTRUCTION OF THE ENEMY FACILITY AND YOUR METHODS USED ...AND FOR YOUR EFFECTIVE APPLICATION OF SEIZED MATERIALS... YOU PASS ON BOTH MARKS
YOU DESERVE SPECIAL MENTION FOR THE FACT THAT YOU HAVE NEUTRALIZED THE BATTERY, WHICH WAS YOUR LAST BARRIER, WITH THE LEAST AMOUNT OF TIME AND LABOR
HOWEVER ...
EH ?
SHIROGANE AND YOROI... YOU CONDUCTED YOUR SURPRISE ATTACK ON THE BASE DURING THE DAY, DIDN'T YOU ?
...!?
WHY DID YOU NOT CHOOSE TO ATTACK BEFORE DAWN, AS THEORIZED ?
COULDN'T YOU HAVE ATTACKED AT NIGHT AFTER ASCERTAINING THE SURROUNDING TERRAIN DURING THE DAY ?
UH ! ...
AFTER ALL, WEREN'T YOU ALSO ABLE TO DETOUR AROUND THE ENEMY FACILITY ?
THAT'S ...!
WHAT ? I DON'T LIKE THE FLOW OF THIS...
...BECAUSE, TO ACT AT NIGHT IN THE JUNGLE WAS DANGEROUS FOR US, SINCE WE WERE UNABLE TO SECURE A PATH OF RETREAT
...!
DON'T TELL ME... IS SHE SAYING... THAT WE WERE TOO IMPATIENT...!?
CLENCH!

...
(GRUNT)
PAINFULLY
YOUR DEMERITS FOR THESE ARE NOT SMALL AT ALL
ASH-
EN!
DON'T TELL ME... THIS CAN'T BE!
YOU'RE KIDDING, RIGHT...!? WAIT, WILL YOU!
MARIMO-CHAN (GASP) !!
...
...
MARIMO-CHAN ...?
PIGUE
!
DAMN IT... AT A TIME LIKE THIS!
...
SHI- (GASP)
...!
WELL, IT'S OKAY, SHIROGANE... I'LL OVERLOOK IT FOR NOW
BECAUSE IT'S AN AUSPICIOUS DAY TODAY

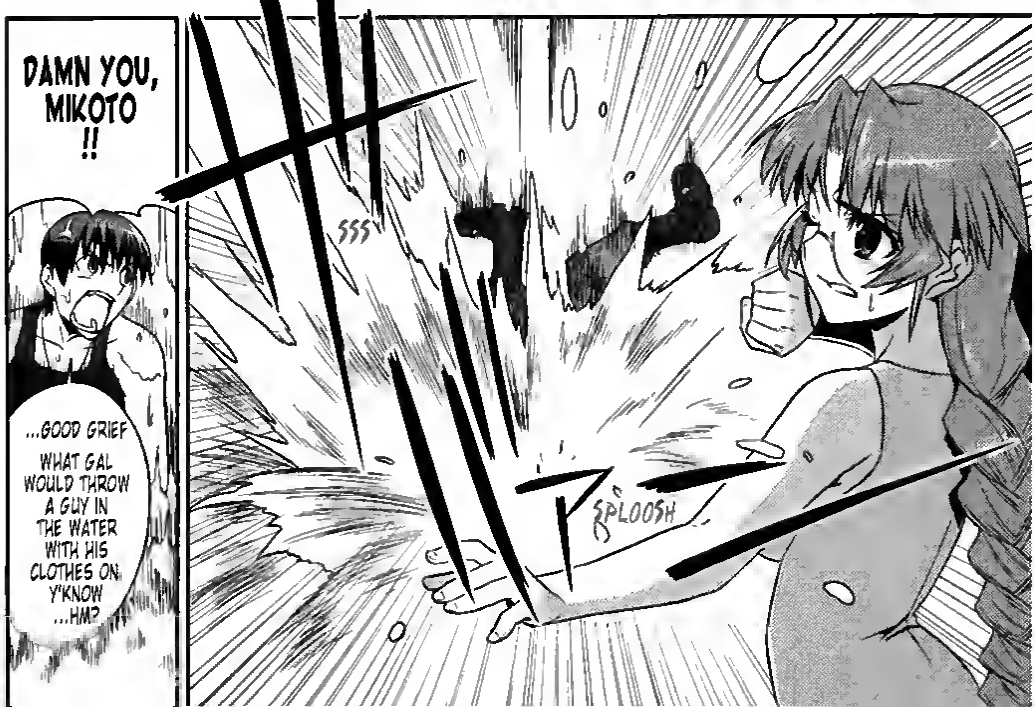
B-... BUT WE MADE SUCH A SERIOUS MISTAKE, AND YET...
... ...
SAKAKI... WHAT IS THE FIRST PRIORITY OBJECTIVE OF THIS EXERCISE ?
CONGRAT-ULATIONS... YOU GRUNTS HAVE PASSED THIS ASSESSMENT EXERCISE !
EH ... !?
... ...
IT'S ... TO ESCAPE
IN ACTUAL COMBAT, IT'S RARE FOR SITUATIONS TO GO ACCORDING TO PLAN
IF YOU HAVE ELEMENTS LIKE TIMING AND LUCK ON YOUR SIDE, AND YOU CAN ATTAIN YOUR OBJECTIVES AS A RESULT, YOU COULD SAY THAT YOU MADE THE RIGHT DECISIONS
AS A RESULT, THERE WASN'T ANY PURSUIT UNITS IN A POSITION TO FIND AND TAKE AIM AT YOU... IT WAS ONLY THE SENSOR OF THE BATTERY
AND, THE ENTIRE SQUAD ESCAPED SAFE AND SOUND... AM I WRONG ?
... NO, MA'AM ...

SAKAKI ...
SNIFFLE!
... YES, MA'AM
...YOU OFTEN DID YOUR BEST UP TO THIS POINT
BECAUSE OF THIS... I EXPECT THE SAME WITH THE SENJUTSUKI (TACTICAL MACHINES)
AH ...
TEAR
... YES, MA'AM ...!

MITSURUGI-SAN, HERE I GO
(GASP)!
SPLASH!
うぅぅ
IDE
PRE
SS
ED
...WHAT'S WITH YOU GLOOMY, AREN'T YOU ...
YOU PASSED, SO CAN YOU BE A LITTLE HAPPIER ?
NO ...
WITH MY HEAD FILLED WITH STUFF ABOUT THE EXAM, I DIDN'T COME PREPARED TO PLAY...
TAKERU !
DON'T JUST SIT THERE... COME AND SWIM, WILL YOU !
EXPLOSIVELY!
LIKE—I—SAID !
I DIDN'T BRING A SWIMSUIT AND SUCH, I TELL YA !

IT'S OKAY, DON'T WORRY !
AH ! I WONDER, SHOULD I BURY YOU IN THE SAND ?
WILL YOU LISTEN A LITTLE TO WHAT PEOPLE TELL YOU !!
TAAAKE ...
THAT (GASP) !!
...TOO SLOW AND TOO EASY
HMM!
BOING
BOP
BUH !?

"VUI (OR BUI) = "V" AS IN "VICTORY"



...AGAIN
...ECCHI
SLIP
BECAUSE WE CAN'T AFFORD TO HAVE TALENTED PEOPLE ROT IN A PLACE LIKE THIS
AND SINCE THEY PASSED, IT'LL BE TROUBLESOME IF WE DON'T GET THEM TO WORK
ISN'T THAT OKAY ? THAT'S SOMETHING THEY THEMSELVES UNDERSTAND, RIGHT
THERE WILL HARDLY BE ANYMORE OPPORTUNITIES LEFT FOR THOSE KIDS TO BE ABLE TO PLAY THIS WAY, DON'T YOU THINK...
IT'S A MINIMAL REWARD ... HUH
... ...
AIR BAA
AGAIN
... ... THEY SEEM TO BE ENJOYING THEMSELVES, DON'T THEY
INDEED ...
WE CANNOT AFFORD IT

"Muv-Luv Alternative Volume 1" has been released without any problems all thanks to you.

It's a new serialization and it was done in spite of trials and errors, but with the support and interest of the original work, somehow it got this far.

Please look forward to the next and subsequent volumes!

Azusa Makajima
A lucky day in April 2008

SPECIAL THANKS

須藤康英
田中一平
晴美はるらん
アシスタントY
鳥居
内藤 隆
長谷見亮
偽くろさき
and more.....

(Names listed without honorifics)

DENGEKI COMICS

マブラヴ オルタネイティヴ①

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SPLASH
MEIYA ...
UHM... OOPS
MITSURUGI... IS IT
HM? ...WHAT IS IT
SHIROGANE, IS IT
REALLY, WE'VE JUST MET AND YOU'RE ADDRESSING ME WITHOUT ANY HONORIFICS...
IT MAY BE OKAY WITH SAKAKI, BUT YOU MUST KNOW A THING ABOUT ORDER
SORRY
I'LL BE CAREFUL
...MITSURUGI, WERE YOU RUNNING UP TO NOW ?
YEAH... FOR THE TIME BEING, IT'S MY DAILY ROUTINE
HEEH... YOU'RE DOING YOUR BEST, AREN'T YOU

ALL RIGHT
ASSEMBLY COMPLETE
SLAP!
...4 MINUTES ...52 SECONDS
NO WAY
SHIROGANE-SAN
YOUR EVEN MORE GUNG HO TODAY, SOMEHOW, HUH...
YO ! WELL, AREN'T I
FLIP!
FOR NOW, SINCE I MADE MY CURRENT OBJECTIVE ...
I CAN'T BE DOING THINGS ABSENT-MINDEDLY UNTIL I BECOME AN EISHI
(A GUARDSMAN)
UNTIL NOW, AYAMINE'S RECORD OF 6 MINUTES 17 SECONDS WAS THE BEST, WASN'T IT...
AND THE NEWCOMER WAS ABLE TO EASILY REPAINT OVER IT ? YOU GRUNTS ALSO MUST DEVOTE YOURSELVES !
YES, MA'AM !!

ENGLISH TRANSLATED AND EDITED BY TONIGOBE

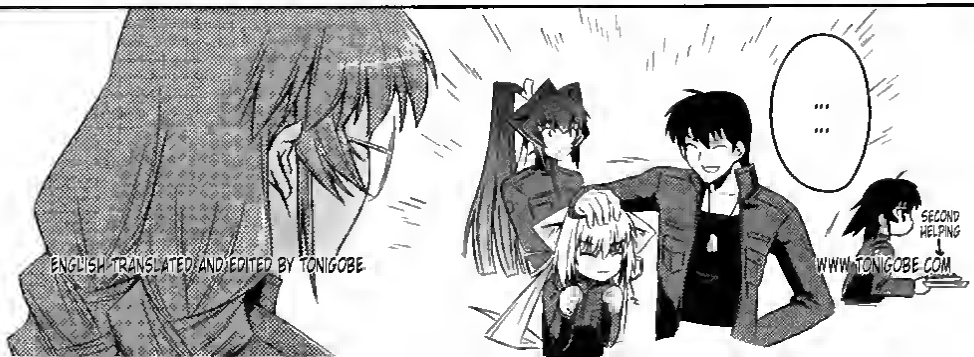
WWW.TONIGOBE.COM

AN ALTERNATIVE UNLIMITED EXTRA

FOR THOSE TAKING NOTES: IN PANEL 3, THE AUTHOR HAD PLACED THE BALLOONS ACCORDINGLY TO SINGLE OUT MEIYA, TAMA, AND AYAMINE'S NAMES. THIS ALTERNATE TAKE ATTEMPTS TO FOLLOW THAT INTENTION.

I'M THE NEWCOMER, AND WE SHOULD HAVE A MUTUAL SENSE OF AFFINITY, SHOULDN'T WE
BECAUSE WE'RE COMRADE-IN-ARMS WHO WATCH EACH OTHERS BACK, RIGHT ?
WHY SUDDENLY FLY FROM THE CURRENT CONVERSATION TO THAT, YOU !

AND AYAMINE ... THAT IS, IN A SENSE, IF I MAY CALL YOU THAT, I GUESS
THAT'S NORMAL
"TAMA"
FOR THAT REASON, TO ME, YOU'RE "MEIYA"
...YOU TURNED DEFIANT, DIDN'T YOU...



PERHAPS, YOU ARE
THE FOCUS OF A UNIQUE PHENOMENON THAT HAS THE POTENTIAL TO MOVE THE WORLD AT A POINT IN TIME WHEN YOUR WILL SWAYS
YOUR "ORIGINAL WORLD" AND "PREVIOUS WORLD" ... THE TWO WORLDS ARE CONSIDERABLY DIFFERENT, HUH
BUT EVEN SO, THIS TIME, YOU CAME BACK TO APPROXIMATELY THE SAME WORLD AGAIN
FWAP
...THAT IS PERHAPS BECAUSE YOU SO WISHED FOR IT
...I DID?

RELAX, TAKERU-SAN! I DIDN'T SHOOT, YET!
BA
(DRAMATIC
THAT'S JUST A DRAMATIC EFFECT!
M
IMP
ENGLISH TRANSLATED AND EDITED BY TONIGOBE
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BECAUSE SHE COMPLETELY SHOT DOWN SOMETHING ABOUT THE SIZE OF A SESAME SEED PLUNGING DOWN OUTSIDE OF THE ATMOSPHERE
THE TAMA OF THAT TIME WAS TRULY GREAT

REVISED NOTES. THE SFXS ON THIS PAGE WAS "INDEED" CONFUSING TO ME AT FIRST I THOUGHT THIS WAS ONE SFX RELATING TO THE EXPLOSION, BUT "DO KI KI KI KI KI N" SEEMED TO BE A RATHER ODD SFX FOR AN EXPLOSION AT LEAST TO ME THEN, THANKS TO THE "LINE" THAT'S BETWEEN THE TWO PANELS, I THOUGHT "KI KI KI KI KI" WAS USED HERE TO EXPRESS "JOY" OR "GLEE" AMONG THE SQUAD IN PANEL 2. AFTER COMING ACROSS A SIMILAR SFX IN CHAPTER 7 AND RETHINKING ABOUT IT, THE USE OF THIS SFX (WHICH IS TOTALLY NEW TO ME) IS USED **PRIMARILY** TO SIGNIFY THE CRACKLING SOUND OF THE SHIP SPLINTERING OR FALLING APART IMHO, THE SFX STILL SERVES A SECONDARY PURPOSE TO SIGNIFY SQUAD 7'S CHEERS

THE LIVES YOU SHOULD SAVE ... HUH
WHILE YOU'RE GETTING EXHAUSTED DOING SO OVER THERE
CAN YOU IMAGINE... HOW MANY SOLDIERS WILL BE DYING IN BATTLEFIELDS AROUND THE WORLD ?
IF YOU WANT TO SAVE THE WORLD... YOU SHOULD PROVE THE FACT THAT YOU, YOURSELF, ARE RIGHT AS SOON AS POSSIBLE
THIS IS A NECESSARY THING (SACRIFICE) FOR THAT SAKE... I WONDER, DOES THAT CONTRADICT ANYTHING ?
SHI- ...
...!!
I KNOW... THESE THINGS, I REALIZE ! IF I DON'T DO SO, I'LL NEVER BE TRUSTED NO MATTER WHAT
IF I'M NOT TRUSTED, I WON'T BE ABLE TO MAKE ALTERNATIVE 4 SUCCEED !

HOWEVER ! TO OVERLOOK KNOWING THAT A GREAT NUMBER OF PEOPLE WILL DIE
I CAN'T DO IT !!
BUT... BUT !
BUT, IT'S NOT GOOD ... I CAN'T MAKE SUCH CALCULATIONS !
I DON'T CARE WHETHER OR NOT YOU SAY I'M IMMATURE...
...YOU'RE TELLING ME TO TAKE STEPS TO MEET THE SITUATION TO THE END, ARE YOU ?
YES, PLEASE !
AND TO BELIEVE YOUR GROUNDLESS WORDS ?
... ...

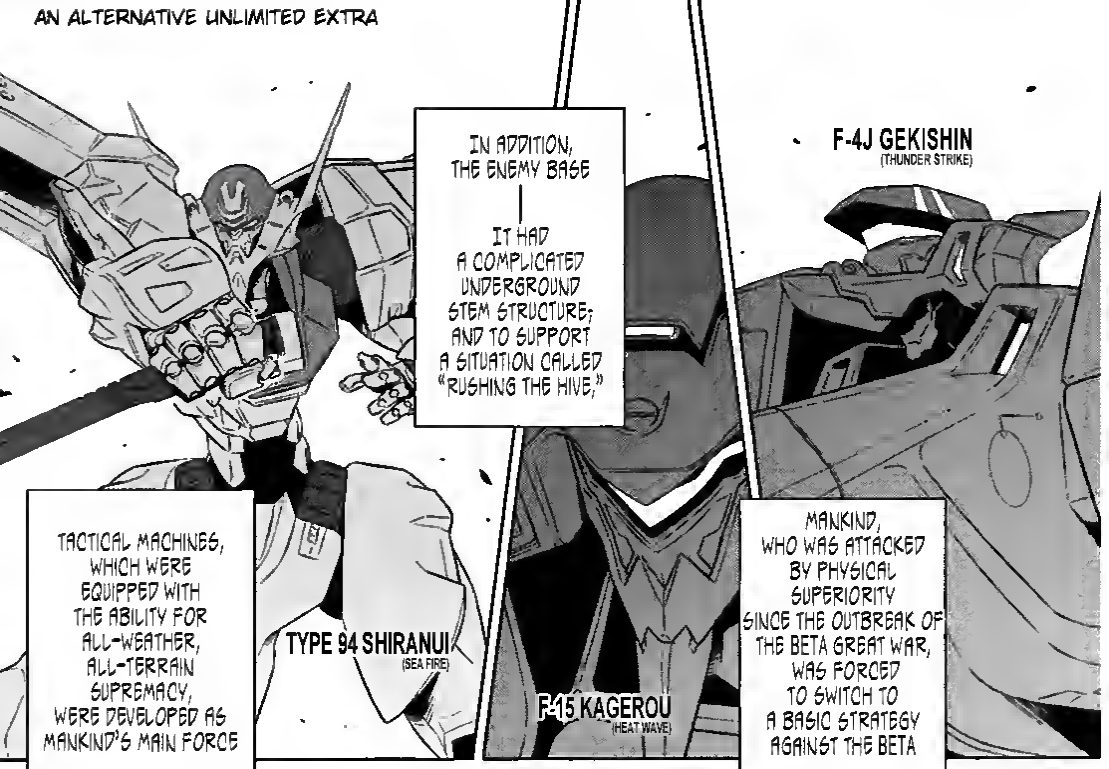
VERY WELL
I'LL EXPLAIN THE SITUATION
SQUAD 207B, ASSEMBLED!
AT 0620 HOURS, (8:20 AM JAPAN TIME) A BRIGADE-SIZED GROUP OF BETA THAT APPEARED FROM SADOGASHIMA HEADS SOUTHBOUND BENEATH THE SEA
H21 SADOGASHIMA HIVE
IMPERIAL NAVY SEA OF JAPAN FLEET
IMPERIAL HOMELAND DEFENSE ARMY 12TH DIVISION
AT 0648, (6:48 AM) THE IMPERIAL ARMY'S 12TH DIVISION, WHO WERE DEPLOYED ALONG THE OLD NATIONAL HIGHWAY, MAKES ENEMY CONTACT
AND, AS OF 0710, (7:10 AM) THEY ARE IN BATTLE AT THE CHUETSU AND KAETSU NIIGATA REGIONS
BEEP!
THEY CAME!
AT 0627, (6:27 AM) THE ENEMY, WHO BROKE THROUGH THE COASTAL DEFENSE LINE THAT THE IMPERIAL NAVY'S SEA OF JAPAN FLEET PROTECTS, LANDS IN NIIGATA
...
THE LAST TIME, THEY BROKE THROUGH HERE AND WERE PERMITTED TO INVADE THE INLAND AREAS ...

THE BADNESS OF TEAMWORK IS DIRECTLY CONNECTED TO THE FAILURE OF STRATEGY... DON'T FORGET THAT
SMACK!
FROM HERE, WE'LL BE CONDUCTING OURSELVES AS A PLATOON

IF THIS EXAM ENDS, WE SHIFT TO THE TRAINING COURSE OF THE TACTICAL MACHINES
THIS IS PERHAPS OUR LAST CHANCE WHERE WE ACT AS INFANTRYMEN LIKE THIS

... PLATOON, ADVANCE!
OKAY! THERE DOESN'T SEEM TO BE ANY TRAPS

THE TACTICAL SURFACE FIGHTER
(THE TACTICAL BIPEDAL MOBILITY COMBAT MACHINE)
NICKNAME, THE TACTICAL MACHINE
IT'S THE GENERIC NAME FOR THE HUMANOID-TYPE, BIPEDALLY MOBILE ORDNANCE OF "THIS WORLD"
IT'S THE VITAL POINT OF THE HUMAN RACE'S DEFENSE IN THE ANTI-BETA STRATEGY

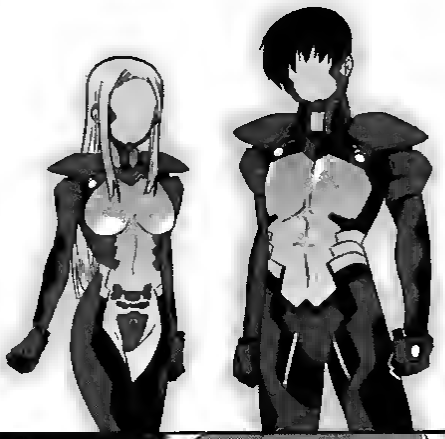


TACTICAL MACHINES, WHICH WERE EQUIPPED WITH THE ABILITY FOR ALL-WEATHER, ALL-TERRAIN SUPREMACY, WERE DEVELOPED AS MANKIND'S MAIN FORCE

IN ADDITION, THE ENEMY BASE — IT HAD A COMPLICATED UNDERGROUND STEM STRUCTURE; AND TO SUPPORT A SITUATION CALLED "RUSHING THE HIVE,"

MANKIND, WHO WAS ATTACKED BY PHYSICAL SUPERIORITY SINCE THE OUTBREAK OF THE BETA GREAT WAR, WAS FORCED TO SWITCH TO A BASIC STRATEGY AGAINST THE BETA

TACTICAL MACHINES, ALONG WITH TENS OF THOUSANDS OF ENEMIES, (BETAS) PROCEEDING TO THE AWAITING FRONT LINES

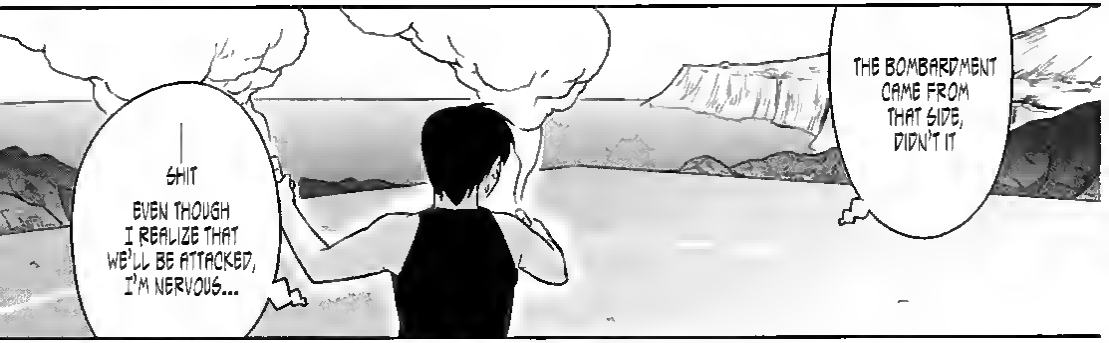


THE PILOTS OF THE TACTICAL MACHINES — THEY ARE CALLED "BISHIS" (GUARDSMEN)

IF THAT HAPPENS, IT'LL BE EASIER TO MAKE USE OF MY SITUATION AND SKILLS... I'LL BE ABLE TO CONTRIBUTE TO ALTERNATIVE 4 MORE DIRECTLY FROM NOW!
THE THING ABOUT PILOTING A TACTICAL MACHINE ...THERE IS A POINT WHERE YOU'LL BE IN CLOSE COMBAT WITH THE BETA.

HU HO HO
HA
...
...IF I COULD SOMEHOW SILENCE THE BATTERY BADLY, HOW DO I CHANGE THE DEVELOPMENT AFTER THIS
IT'S NOT A THING THAT IS UNDERSTOOD
HO HO HO
IT CAN'T BE HELPED... WE HAVE NO CHOICE BUT TO BE BOMBARDED THIS TIME, TOO...

AH AYAMINE, WAIT
PLEASE LET ME DO IT
?
I'VE WANTED TO TRY DOING IT ONCE, Y'KNOW
MAY I ?
BECAUSE SHE'S LIKELY TO BECOME MINCEMEAT IF SHE LIGHTS IT UNKNOWINGLY...



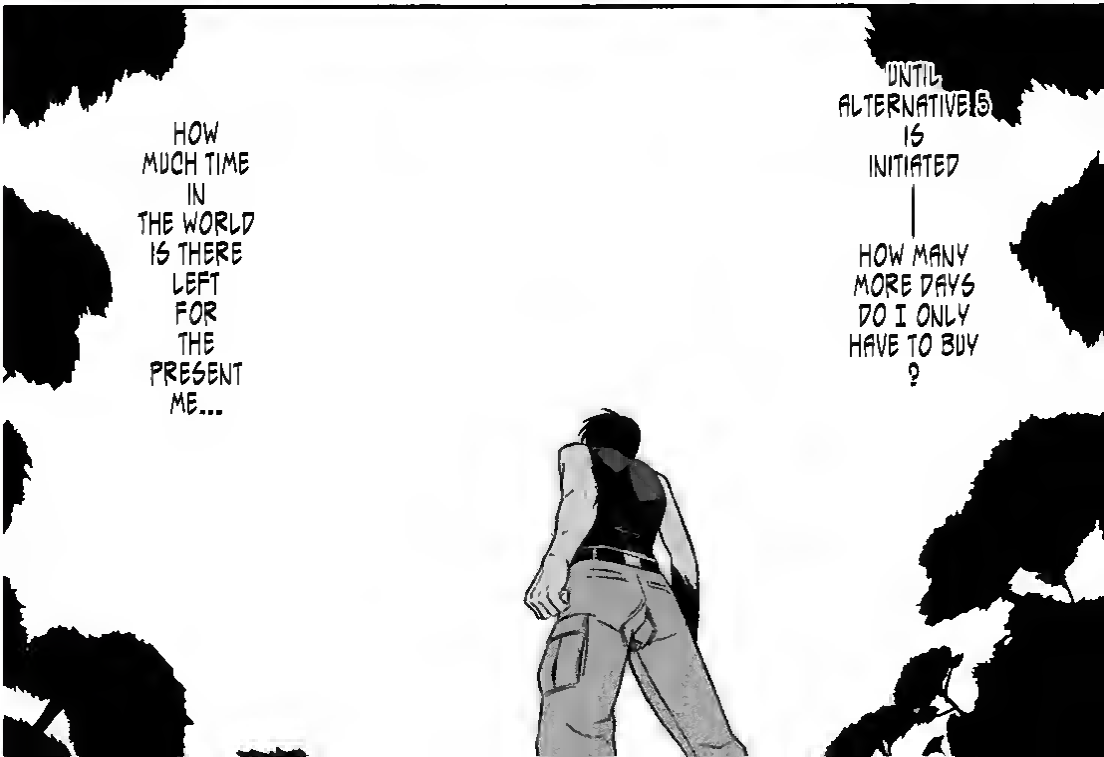
NOTES: I WAS VACILLATING OVER PANEL 3 BECAUSE I HAD 2 TRAINS OF THOUGHT HERE:
1) AYAMINE IS THE SUBJECT OF THE SENTENCE AND SHIROGANE IS CONCERNED FOR HER SAFETY,
2) SHIROGANE IS THE SUBJECT AND IS WILLING TO BE THE TARGET.
EVENTUALLY, I WENT WITH THE LATTER BECAUSE I FELT THE FORMER SORT OF BELITTLES AYAMINE'S SKILL AS A SOLDIER- SORT OF. NOT THAT SHIROGANE WOULD BELITTLE AYAMINE ANYWAY. ^_^

FOR THOSE TAKING NOTES
THIS IS BASICALLY A LITERAL VERSION OF SHIROGANE'S SENTENCE

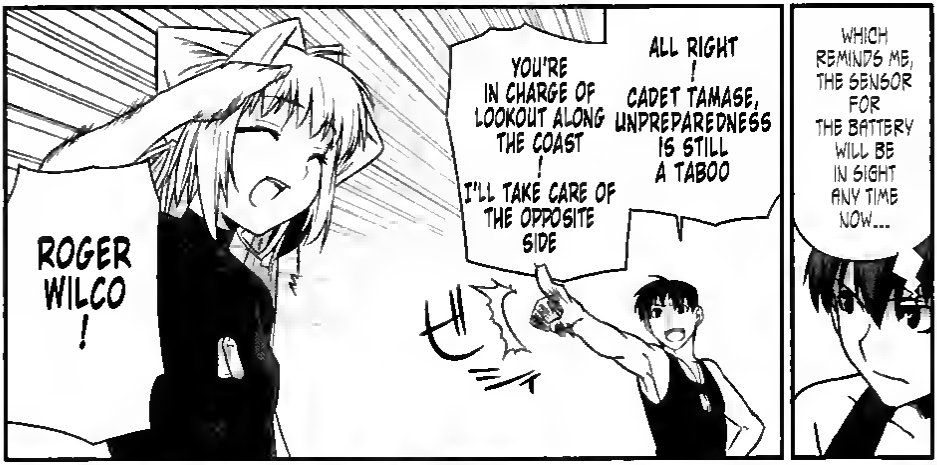
THE JAPANESE LANGUAGE OFTEN CONVEYS CERTAIN EMOTIONS WHICH ARE SOMETIMES DIFFICULT TO EXPRESS IN ENGLISH WITHOUT ADDING ADDITIONAL INFORMATION (WORDS)

HERE TAKERU ACTUALLY EXPRESSES A CERTAIN DISDAIN FOR EITHER THE BOMBARDMENT OR THE BATTERY THAT'S SHELLING THEM — KINDA HARD TO SHOW THAT DISDAIN IN TWO WORDS ISN'T IT — ^ ^

BUT, AS FAR AS I'M CONCERNED, THIS IS A NATURAL EXAM TO BE PASSING... IT'S NOTHING BUT A WAYPOINT
IF I LOOK AT JUST THE EXAMINATION, IT SURELY IS SO
IS THERE STILL ... ROOM


HOW MUCH TIME IN THE WORLD IS THERE LEFT FOR THE PRESENT ME...
UNTIL ALTERNATIVE 5 IS INITIATED — HOW MANY MORE DAYS DO I ONLY HAVE TO BUY ?

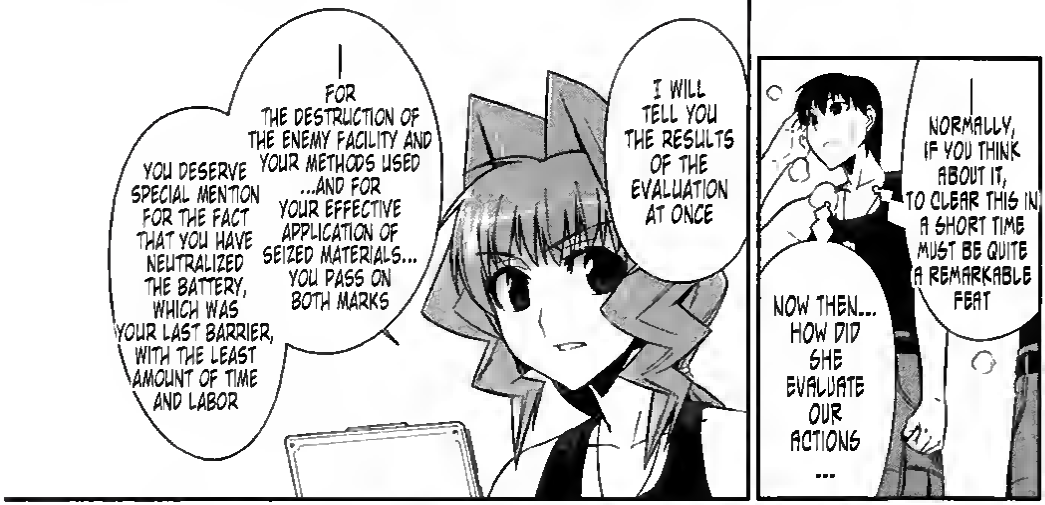
TAKERU-SAN!
AH... AAH WHAT'S WRONG, TAMA?
YOU'RE LOST IN THOUGHT AGAIN, YOU KNOW?
IF THIS TREND CONTINUES, WE'LL ABSOLUTELY PASS, EVEN IF YOU DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT!
... ...
THAT'S TRUE, ISN'T IT... SANKYU (THANK YOU)


WHICH REMINDS ME, THE SENSOR FOR THE BATTERY WILL BE IN SIGHT ANY TIME NOW...
ALL RIGHT! CADET TAMASE, UNPREPAREDNESS IS STILL A TABOO
YOU'RE IN CHARGE OF LOOKOUT ALONG THE COAST! I'LL TAKE CARE OF THE OPPOSITE SIDE
ROGER WILCO!

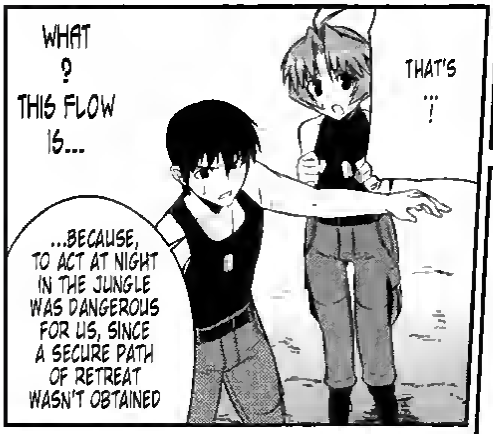
I'M RELYING ON YOU... PLEASE FIND THE NICE SENSOR...
!
THAT'S...
WHAT'S WRONG, TAMASE?

JUST AS I THOUGHT... THERE'S A RADOME POSITIONED ON THE SIDE OF THE CLIFF
A SECTION IS BROKEN OFF AND BECAUSE OF THE GAP, I CAN SEE SOME MECHANISMS MOVING
...YOU CAN TELL FROM ITS POSITION THE PROBABILITY THAT IT'S THE SENSOR OF THE BATTERY IS VERY HIGH
IF WE CAN DESTROY THAT, THEN BEING ABLE TO NEUTRALIZE THE BATTERY IS VERY HIGH... THERE'S NO WAY WE'RE NOT USING THE ANTI-MATERIAL SNIPER RIFLE HERE
TAMASE
GET READY TO SNIPE!
BUT... IT'S QUITE A DISTANCE FROM HERE, Y'KNOW? IS THAT OKAY?
...
...
YEAH THERE'S NO WIND NOW, SO I CAN MANAGE SOMEHOW!
CLENCH!
THE TAMA OF THIS TIME HAS YET TO COMPLETELY OVERCOME HER PERFORMANCE ANXIETY, HASN'T SHE...
A SITUATION LIKE THIS WHERE FAILURE IS NOT ACCEPTABLE SHOULD STILL HAVE CONSIDERABLE PRESSURE ...AS FOR BEFORE, THIS SMALL BACK APPEARED VERY RELIABLE, BUT...
KAT-T-TLE
...?

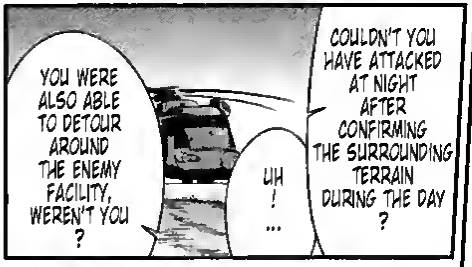
TARGET DESTROYED !
WHAP
ALL RIGHT !!!
...
...
WITH THIS, OUR ABILITY TO ADVANCE WITHOUT WORRYING ABOUT THE BATTERY HAS RISEN
IT'S A SHORT DISTANCE MORE UNTIL THE RECOVERY POINT ...
WE'LL PROCEED AT ONCE EVERYONE !!
ROGER !!


NORMALLY, IF YOU THINK ABOUT IT, TO CLEAR THIS IN A SHORT TIME MUST BE QUITE A REMARKABLE FEAT
NOW THEN... HOW DID SHE EVALUATE OUR ACTIONS ...
I WILL TELL YOU THE RESULTS OF THE EVALUATION AT ONCE
FOR THE DESTRUCTION OF THE ENEMY FACILITY AND YOUR METHODS USED ...AND FOR YOUR EFFECTIVE APPLICATION OF SEIZED MATERIALS... YOU PASS ON BOTH MARKS
YOU DESERVE SPECIAL MENTION FOR THE FACT THAT YOU HAVE NEUTRALIZED THE BATTERY, WHICH WAS YOUR LAST BARRIER, WITH THE LEAST AMOUNT OF TIME AND LABOR

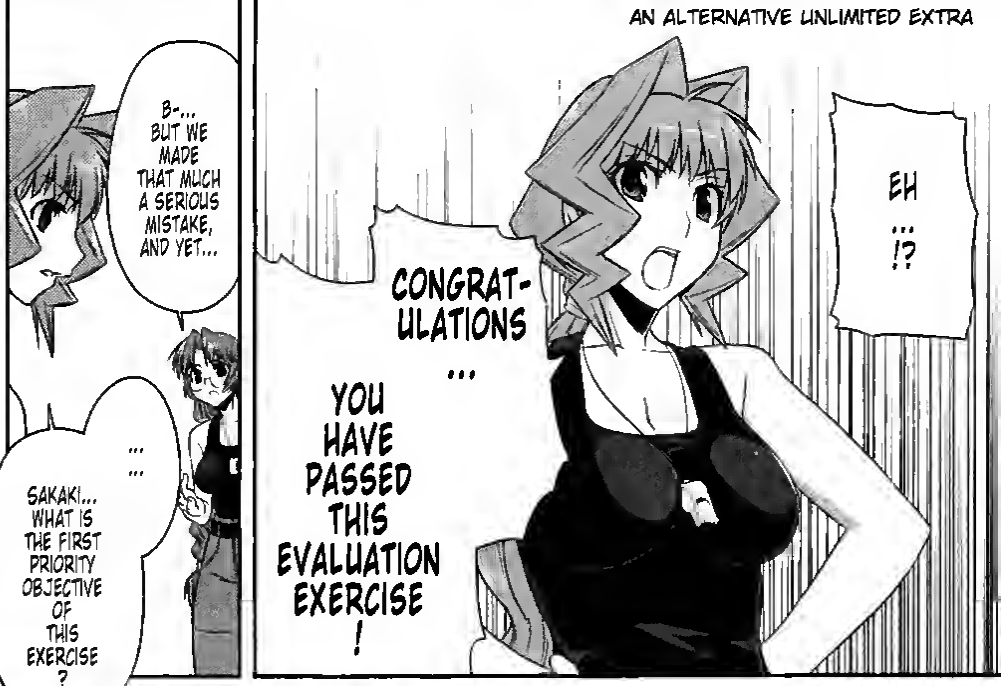
EH ?
HOWEVER ...


WHAT ? THIS FLOW IS...
THAT'S ...!
...BECAUSE, TO ACT AT NIGHT IN THE JUNGLE WAS DANGEROUS FOR US, SINCE A SECURE PATH OF RETREAT WASN'T OBTAINED

SHIROGANE AND YOROI... YOU CONDUCTED YOUR SURPRISE ATTACK ON THE BASE DURING THE DAY, DIDN'T YOU ?
...!?
WHY DID YOU NOT CHOOSE TO ATTACK BEFORE DAWN, AS THEORIZED ?


COULDN'T YOU HAVE ATTACKED AT NIGHT AFTER CONFIRMING THE SURROUNDING TERRAIN DURING THE DAY ?
UH ! ...
YOU WERE ALSO ABLE TO DETOUR AROUND THE ENEMY FACILITY, WEREN'T YOU ?

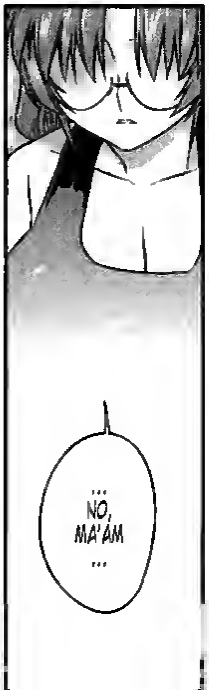
...!
BY NO MEANS... IS SHE TELLING US THAT WE WERE TOO MUCH IN A RUSH ...!?
CLENCH!


EH ... !?
CONGRAT-ULATIONS ...
YOU HAVE PASSED THIS EVALUATION EXERCISE !
B-... BUT WE MADE THAT MUCH A SERIOUS MISTAKE, AND YET...
... ...
SAKAKI... WHAT IS THE FIRST PRIORITY OBJECTIVE OF THIS EXERCISE ?

... ...

IT'S ... TO ESCAPE
IN ACTUAL COMBAT, IT'S RARE FOR SITUATIONS TO GO ACCORDING TO PLAN
TIMING AND FATE... IF YOU HAVE ELEMENTS LIKE THESE ON YOUR SIDE, AND YOU ATTAIN YOUR OBJECTIVES AS A RESULT, YOU COULD SAY THAT YOU MADE THE RIGHT DECISION

AS A RESULT, THE PURSUIT UNIT WASN'T IN A POSITION TO TAKE AIM AT YOU; IT WAS ONLY THE SENSOR OF THE BATTERY
AND, YOU ESCAPED WITH THE ENTIRE SQUAD UNHARMED... AM I WRONG ?


... NO, MA'AM ...

FOR THOSE TAKING NOTES.

THIS IS A MORE LITERAL TAKE.

THIS IS ALMOST A SIMILAR CASE AS WITH PAGE 153 WHERE THE READER COULD FIND A DEEPER MEANING TO WHAT WAS WRITTEN.

BUT IN THIS CASE, THERE'S REALLY NOTHING IN JINGUUJI'S DIALOG TO INDICATE ANY EXPRESSED WISHES OR EMOTIONS BEYOND WHAT'S IN THIS LITERAL TAKE. THE JAPANESE READER CAN EITHER INFER IT, OR NOT FROM THE CONTEXT.

*VUI (OR BUI) = "V" AS IN "VICTORY"